

## THE INDEPENDENT

· 45p (IR50p) No 3,496

### INSIDE TODAY

Top records and films of 1997: the critics' choice PAGE 9



**Unmissable dates** for your 1998 arts diary

PAGE 18

PROMOTION

Starting next week: **Lunch with Conran** for £10

### TODAY'S NEWS

### Stock exchange ends year on a high

A rollercoaster year for the London stock market descended into farce yesterday after the Stock Exchange amended the closing prices of more than one out of ten FTSE-100 stocks after the market lost 32 points in the last few minutes of trading - an attempt to prevent rogue trading. The index, which was also revised upwards, closed at 5, 135.5, up almost 25 per cent on the year. Our business staff expect 1998 will be a good year, as the economy slows steadily down. Page 19.

#### Harsh words in Ulster

David Trimble, Ulster Unionist leader, and Mo Mowlam. Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, exchanged "acrimonious" words at Stormont yesterday. Ms Mowlam latter agreed to consider Mr Trimble's demand for an independent public inquiry into the Maze prison killing of Billy Wright, a loyalist paramilitary. Page 4

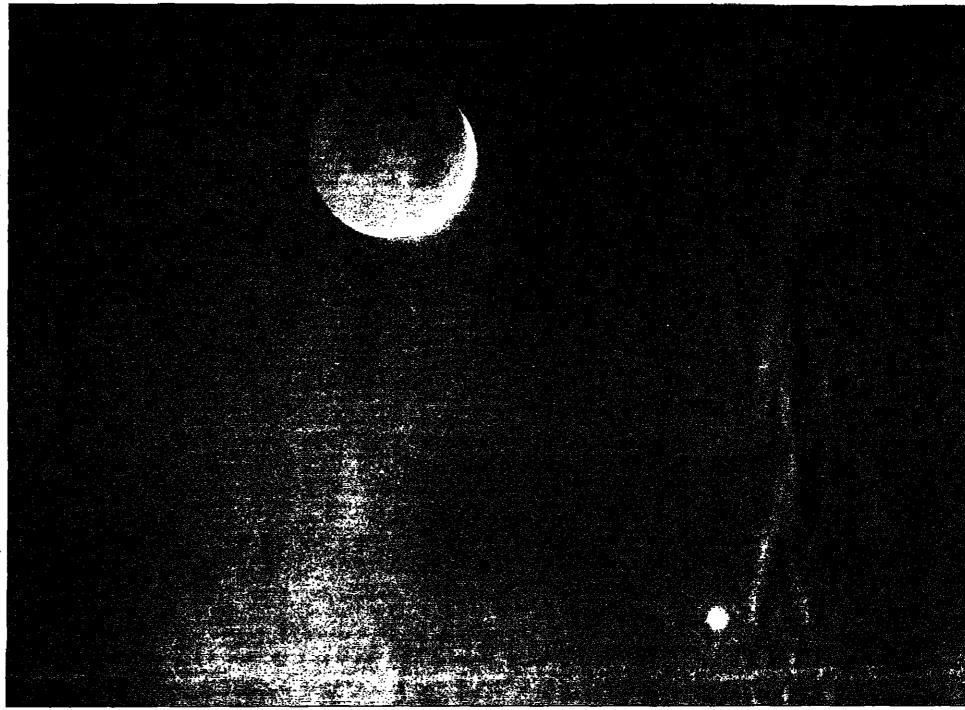
### Forget fighting the flab

That New Year resolution to cut the flab-may not only be futile, it could also be dangerous. According to the New England Journal of Medicine, one of the most respected medical journals, people are merely likely to make themselves miserable, and still fail to reduce their fat. And there is anyway little evidence that they will end up healthier than someone who started out thinner. The answer (surprise, surprise!) is to persuade young people to exercise more so they embark on life with a low body weight. Shove your child off the sofa and bin his pizza. Page 3

#### Nosmokeville, USA

From this morning, California will begin enforcing the most far-reaching anti-smoking code anywhere attempted in the United States. It amounts to a ban on smoking in virtually any public building, including all watering holes, whether regular bars, nightclubs or casinos. Our correspondent ponders the consequences for the kind of glamorous tow-life Hollywood made famous. Page 3

A new moon and the Goddess of Love greet the New Year



### Blair commits party to welfare overhaul

Tony Blair may be enjoying his New Year in the sun-kissed Seychelles but today he warns his party - and the rebels over benefit cuts - they are in for a year of "hard work, discipline and determination". Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, says the Prime Minister will find the rebels are still feeling restless.

Tony Blair, the man who made his indelible mark on 1997, is promising little compromise over his "tough choices" for 1998. Labour rebels are warned in a New Year message by the Prime Minister that the Government will not be deflected in the coming year from its task of beginning a fundamental shake-up of the welfare state. In an uncompromising message to the

party, Mr Blair tells Labour supporters the New Year will require "hard work, discipline and determination". The message - issued in his absence

from Labour headquarters - came as the Government was facing the threat of a fresh revolt over the idea of imposing prescription charges on the Pill as part of a comprehensive review of public spending, as reported in The Independent yesterday.

Some of the leading rebels who voted against the Government on cuts in lone parent benefits said they would oppose any

move to force millions of women to pay the £5.65 prescription charge for the Pill. Alice Mahon, who resigned as a ministerial aide, said: "I would definitely be 100 per cent opposed to charges for the Pill. "I think most of the women MPs would

be against it." The outcry by Labour MPs, charities. and the medical profession led by the British Medical Association, may be enough to persuade ministers to drop the plan. But the Department of Health said nothing could be ruled out at this stage, and ministers are determined to crack down on the soaring £4bn NHS drugs bill by curbing fraud and some of the exemptions.

The Prime Minister makes it clear that some decisions on the welfare state may be unpopular but they will be seen later to have been worth it. "Tough choices will come. They must be faced up to. It is then that our resolve, our strength of purpose and our commitment will be tested. I am confident that we can meet that test and change Britain for the good."

He adds: "Let me make one thing absolutely clear: people in genuine need of help will get it. The talk of taking any benefit from the most vulnerable in our society is scaremongering. But the present system is failing the poor and failing the country.

lions but failing to tackle the real problems of poverty. It has to change and this Government will change it." The Prime Minister, currently holi-

"We are spending more and more bil-

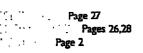
daying in the Seychelles with his family, promises that the Government's choices will be seen to pay off over time - and a new Britain, confident, united, vibrant, respected in the world, will be there to usher in a new Millennium."

Mr Blair will use the 50th anniversary of the NHS to reaffirm his Government's commitment to the founding principles for the health service. Health ministers today will announce an extra £10m to tackle the exodus of dentists from the NHS.

The "tough choices" facing the Government include overseeing the introduction of the New Deal for the young and long-term unemployed; the completion of the comprehensive spending review which could involve radical changes across Whitehall: and a transport White Paper with a Spring Budget by the Chancellor, which could herald taxes to curb car use.

Pledging a "positive but hard-headed" attitude towards Europe, the Prime Minister promises that jobs, crime and the environment will be at the forefront of Britain's presidency of the European Union, which officially starts today.

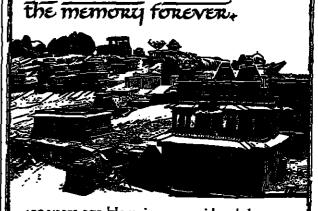
Mr Blair sounds an optimistic note over Northern Ireland, in spite of the worsening signs for peace with renewed sectarian killings. "Of course there will be difficulties along the way. Nobody ever said it would be easy. But it is worth the effort and this Government will make the effort to give the people of Northern Ireland the peace and security they deserve," he says.



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It took invaders six months to bestroy Hampi. But it will live in



400 years ago Hampi was considered the greatest of all mediaeval Hindu capitals with markets that overflowed with silks, diamonds, rubies and emeralds. In 1566 it was systematically razed to the ground by invading forces. But though the laughter and clamour of the inhabitants have disappeared, the ruins and remains live on.

Now visitors take the three hour train journey from Bombay to relive what has been aptly termed The Pompei of India, to visit the Bazaar, its museums and the extraordinary

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Ind 1/1/08

### Good riddance gonzo snollygoster, and you scuzzy himbos

Can anyone remember the year of the himbo? Has anybody ever encountered a spollygoster?

Before we get too excited at the annual crop of additions to the English language, just released by the Oxford English Dictionary, it is salutary to look back over the Nineties at previous addi-

"Cans. This year's list might in-'ced have found some words and phrase to endure. Sin-

gle, unarrached women in their 30s risk being called Bridget Joneses for years to come. Cool Britannia - a term first used in The Independent - will have life as long as New Labour does. Likewise Girl Power and the Spice Girls. But an internot (someone who refuses to use the Internet) seems a mite contrived. And to Gordon Brown (meaning to wear a lonnge suit) feels like it emanated from a Treasury spin

doctor rather than a lexicog-

But those who think such phrases and others like adultescent (35-45 year olds with interests typically associated with youth culture) are both ugly and ephemeral, can take comfort. Not all of the words and phrases selected by Oxford lexicographers last the course. And some are quietly dropped from dictionaries if they fail to be nominated three years in a row.

The 1990s have produced a number of words which delighted the lexicographers. but were rarely spoken by any of the population.

Last year, for example. had bald people called slapheads, except they virtually never are. 1995 saw a host of new words associated with the National Lottery - instants, scratchcards and the like. These have all stayed with us. But whatever happened to the non-lottery

words, descriptions such as "antsy" meaning agitated, deriving from "to have ants in your pants". Fortunately, it quietly disappeared.

philosophy of the then Prime Minister, was much in vogue in 1993, but doesn't have many takers now. Also apparently in vogue in '93 was himbo (a male bimbo), though even bimbo feels out of date now, let alone its male counterpart. Dweeh,

meaning a conventionally buring person, surfaces only occasionally, while gonzo, meaning a crazy person, and scuzz, meaning an unpleasant Majorism, the political

person, surface not at all. In 1991 stealing a car for joyriding purposes was "hotting", but joyriding has outlasted its slangier competitor. And whatever happened to 1992's snollygoster — "a shrewd, unprincipled person,

esp. a politician."? — David Lister

### COLUMN ONE

### Church in the doghouse over canine baptism

It is often said that the British have an unhealthy habit of anthropomorphising their pets but few have gone so far as trying to defy one of the main tenets of Christian belief and secure for their pet a place in heav-

Dog owner Anne Moore came to the startling conclusion that her Rottweller Bertie has an immortal soul that needs protecting and tried to have him baptised - complete with Godparents.

The dog - full name Bertie Bear Rocksam Moore - had been fitted out with a blue satin bib for the event at Lincoln's All Saints Church which was planned for 16 January.

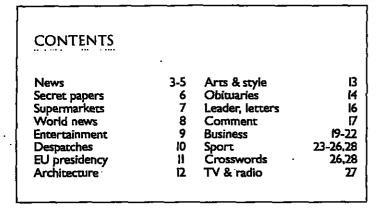
Ms Moore had the Rev Anthony Kerswill's consent for the service because it had been described to him as a service of thanksgiving.

After local newspapers described the event as a baptism he cancelled the service complaining about "publicity and obvious misrepresentation". The clergyman has told the Church Times: "We should not be seen to be baptising animals. My bishop would go hairless if he thought I was bap-

Miss Moore, 23, of Lincoln said: "He has made me feel like I have done something wrong, like I am a criminal. He has got no sense of humour whatsoever. She added: "The dog means so much to me and I wanted him to have 'God parents'. He usually goes everywhere with me, he is my shadow. I hate leaving him and when I go out he has a baby-sitter who stays with him - they are like babies aren't they."

The affair is not yet over and the Anglican church's reputation for liberal interpretation of the gospels may yet be intact: "I have spoken to one vicar and he told me to ring back in the new year. He said he could probably do it but to keep quiet about it."

- Paul McCann





**NEWSPAPERS SUPPORT RECYCLING** Recycled paper made up 41.4% of the raw material for UK spapers in the first half of 1997.

### **PEOPLE**





#### The man who'll call the odds on ET's next visit

Graham Sharpe, a bookmaker with William Hill. is the man who has to distinguish between the simply

unconventional and the downright unacceptable. During the last 12 months he has set the odds on bets ranging from the probability of aliens landing in Bristol to one of the Spice Girls becoming pregnant.

"I am the person who handles any bet that comes under the heading of unconventional. No matter up in their subjects that they wanted to bet on earthwhich shop someone walks into anywhere in Britain. if they can't quote the odds, the customer will be referred to me," he said.

But there are some wagers that even Mr Sharpe will not accept. When Geoff Sartin, from Shanklin. Isle of Wight, asked for odds on his wife Barbara dying on 25 March 2007, he felt obliged to turn him down. "We try to use the same guidelines as advertising - a bet should be legal, decent, honest and truth-

"Apparently they had both agreed to him placing the bet. He said his wife would know there were no sinister overtones if it happened but I do not know if the police would see it that way.

We do not mind taking bets on the lives of fictional soap characters but we do not like to bet on not have to pay up."

For the same reasons he would not accept bets on the deaths of the Pope or the Queen

"There is always a danger that if you are silly enough to accept such a het, the people will go out and try to make it a self-fulfilling prophecy."

He said that some people became so wrappedquakes wiping out San Francisco or Tokyo without stopping to think of the loss of life.

Bets on the outcome of the Louise Woodward trial - like the OJ Simpson case the year before were also turned down, as were several other strange requests during the year.

There were the arts students Jamie Lewis and Phil Duckworth, from Coventry, who wanted to bet they could sell a work of art for £1m. Mr Sharpe regret-He also felt bound to refuse a London man who

wanted to place a £50 wager on his wife being abducted by aliens and replaced by an android. "I could not take it - it might be a really good android and if I could not tell the difference, we would

- Kate Watson-Smyth

### UPDATE

**FOOD** 

#### Chicken tops the menu

Chicken has been hailed as the number one meat for 1997, with the average Briton devouring the equivalent of 10 whole birds during the year, chicken producers said yesterday.

The fowl accounts for about 40 per cent of raw meat sales, knocking beef into second place at 24 per cent followed by pork at 18 per cent and

The explosion in ready meals has helped swell the popularity of poultry with chicken curry, kiev and nuggets notching up record sales of £581m

The effects of the BSE crisis has also helped chicken hold on to the

number one top spot for the ninth year in a row. Overall chicken sales have risen by 1.6 per cent to just over one mil-

lion tonnes - nearly 20 kg per person. John Ramuz, chairman of the British Chicken Information Service, said: 'Chicken's enduring popularity is undoubtedly that it offers an infinite variety of recipes and meal occasions as well as being nutritious, low in fat

and affordable." Mr Ramuz said retailers and chicken producers had worked hard to match-demand for innovative meals.

RABIES

### Support for pet quarantine

The quarantine laws aimed at keeping rabies out of the country still receive a lot of support, despite growing calls for them to be dropped, a new survey has revealed.

Some 52 per cent of those polled insisted the six-month isolation of animals being brought in from abroad should remain as a protection against the threat of rabies. Some 47 per cent of pet owners backed full quarantine, said the Bella magazine survey, which polled 1,000 people. But 48 per cent of all those asked agreed there was scope for reforming the laws.

Campaign group Passports for Pets said vaccination, blood-testing and tagging would be an effective counter against the spread of rabies. A spokeswoman said: "Records show that in the UK between 1972 and 1996, 3,000 cats and dogs died while in quarantine - not one of them had rabies."

#### **TOURIST RATES** Australia (dollars) 2.43 Italy (lira) Austria (schillings) 20. I3 Japan (yen) 0.62 Malta (lira) Belgium (francs) 59.19 Netherlands (guilders) 3.22 2.30 11.85 Cyprus (pounds) 0.83 Norway (kroner) Portugal (escudos) 290.49 Ю.99 Denmark (kroner) 9.58 Spain (pesetas) 242.00 France (francs) 12.74 Germany (marks) 2.87 Sweden (kroner) 7.33 456.0l Switzerland (francs) Greece (drachmei) 328,403 12.39 Turkey (lira) Hong Kong (\$) 1.6 USA (\$) Ireland (punts)

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by Jerry Scott & Jim Borgman 7.30 FOR 8

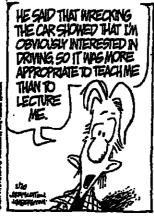
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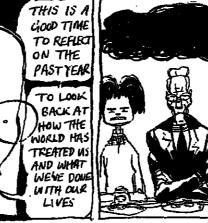
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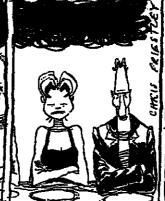


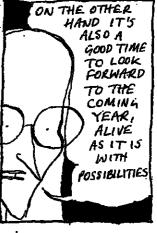




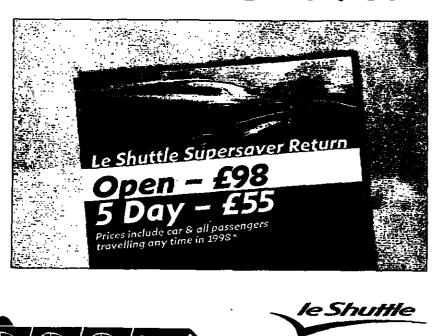








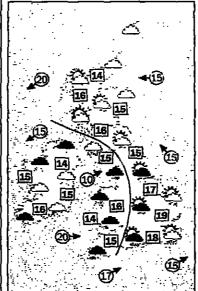
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**FORECAST** 



#### The British Isles Outlook:

Scotland will start cloudy and damp with some patchy rain. During the day it should slowly brighten up with the best of the sun along the north-west coast, but occasional showers are also likely, and persistent rain will never be far away from the south-west. Northern freland, Wales and western England will be cloudy and grey with spells of rain. Eastern and southeastern England should start dry with a little sunshine, but a few scattered heavy showers will

little sunshine, but it will be another doudy day with scattered heavy showers. Northern Ireland and Scotland will also have a lot of cloud and some showers, but the far north may stay dry: On Friday the showers will be mainly over England and Wales with the best of the dry weather in Scotland and Northern Ireland. The weel and should be drier, brighter and warmer in most places, but patchy rain will spread slowly south through Scotland later.

Tomorrow, England and Wales should see a

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AA Roadwatch

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lights on Ashton Rd Merseyarde, AS67 Bootle, Stanley Rd do

northbound until further notice. Tyre & West, A19 News Roadworks at Kangworth. West Yorks, MI K7 Major roadworks until Sept 15

watch call 0336 401 for the latest local and national traffic news. Source: The Automobile Association, Calls charged at 50p per minute at all times (inc VAT).

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### Going on a diet? Think again, it may be a waste of time

Fighting the flab may not only be pointless - it could be dangerous, too. Jeremy Laurance, Health Editor, describes how a leading medical journal has put its considerable weight behind the anti-fattism lobby.

Today, millions of people across the Western world will make a resolution to lose weight which they will certainly break within days, weeks or months. They will expend large amounts of energy and huge amounts of money buying special foods. counting calories and joining diet clubs.

Most will fail in the attempt, generating guilt and self hatred. leenage girls are at highest risk by taking dieting to extremes. causing anorexia and bulimia, with a significant risk of death. But older adults also suffer from the cost, constant hunger and the loss of one of the greatest of life's pleasures - eating.

Despite the huge social and medical pressure on the overweight to shed excess pounds, there is scant evidence that it

improves health. An editorial in the New England Journal of Medicine, published today, says that although there is some evidence that overweight people suffer more ill health and a higher risk of death, which diminishes as they get older, it does not follow that losing weight will reduce the risk. "We simply do not know

20lbs will thereby acquire the reduced risk of a person who started out 20lbs lighter." The editorial, written - unusually - by the Journal's editors, Jerome Kassirer and Marcia Angell, firmly takes the

whether a person who loses

side of fatties everywhere by suggesting that the medical campaign against obesity is based on moral disapproval rather than scientific evidence. "In this age of political correctness, it seems that obese people can be criticised with impunity because the critics are merely trying to help them.

Some doctors take part in this

blurring of prejudice and altru-

ism by overstating the dangers

of obesity and the redemptive powers of weight loss." The authors say that the old view that body weight is a function of only two variables - the intake of calories and the expenditure of energy - has given way to the more complex view that each individual has a natural set weight that is resistant to gain or loss in the short term but may move with age.

Under this concept, appetite and metabolism alter automatically to prevent large fluctuations in weight. Although a crash diet may achieve sudden weight loss, when the extreme measures cease body weight normally returns to its preexisting level.

The best way of curbing expanding waistlines would be to prevent obesity and the most effective means of doing that would be to get children to exercise. "If the time children now spend in front of the television eating junk food ... were instead spent in physical activity, leanness would be virtually ensured," the authors say.

They urge doctors to be cautious about exhorting patients to lose weight, and to speak out against the public's excessive infatuation with being thin. "We should remember that the cure for obesity may be



Taking the register: Curator Heather Hall checking off two South American coati during the annual animal stocktaking at London Zoo in Regent's Park yesterday. The zoo has some 650 species

### No smoke without ire as California clears the air

The anti-smoking tide is spreading quickly across the United States. David Usborne reports on a radical law that comes into effect today that will clear the atmosphere - if not wreck it completely - in

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by Chris Prier

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> The sound of clinking in Caliglasses colliding in toasts for the New Year. Rather it came from barrenders gathering up the ashtrays one last time and con-

signing them to the rubbish bin. From this morning, California will begin enforcement of the most far-reaching of anti-smoking codes attempted by any state in the union. It amounts to a ban on smoking in virtually any public building. including all watering holes, whether regular bars, nightclubs or casinos.

While smoking has been outlawed from restaurants in California for some time - as in many US cities, New York included - only now will punters in the state be forced into an experience they may never before have tried in their lives: taking a beer without at the same time

lighting up. And there are only a very few exceptions. Bars without any employees of any description will remain smoking-friendly, but it is hard to imagine that any such places exist. Smokers in the state will also still be allowed to indulge in outdoor sports arenas. Otherwise, however, cigarettes in public places will be theoretically as illegal as cocaine

Already, there is talk of or- trade by telling them they can't



Bogeyman: The Maltese Falcon was made in San Francisco. Now, Humphrey Bogart would be in trouble in the city

ganised disobedience to thwart the law, which some see as a violation of civil rights. "What you've got in California is Prohibition," complained Thomas Humber of the Smokers' Alliance, a pro-smoking group in Virginia. He was referring to the period in the Twenties and ear-Thirties when sale of alcohol was banned in the US.

Bar and club owners are warning of disastrous consequences for their businesses. And doubts are already gathering as to whether the law can be properly policed. Under the law, it will be incumbent on bar and club owners to ensure that patrons to do not smoke. In theory, those in violation will be fined \$100 for the first offence. rising to \$7,000 if they are

caught a fourth time. "What am I going to do?" one Los Angeles bar owner asked. "At least three-quarters of the people in here are smokers. Do I lose all that

smoke, or do I risk being fined? I think I'll just let them smoke." The Prohibition Era was in-

famous because of the illegal means that were adopted to get around it and provide the thirsty with booze, notably bootlegging and the opening of speakeasies. In California now. imaginations are turning to the possibility of "smoke-easies" being established.

State officials, however, are confident that the law will take hold and that people will gradually accept it as they have the absence of smoking tables in restaurants. "People will get used to it, they'll just go outside and smoke," remarked a spokeswoman for the state Department of Health.

According to Brett Grunland, a Republican state lawmaker and a famously heavy smoker, the chances of the law being repealed are slim. "This law is unreasonable. But I'm afraid it's going to be the law of the land".

## OPEN TODAY NEW YEAR'S 10AM-6PM FRI 9AM-8PM, SAT 9AM-6PM KITCHEN CABINETS Chiltern THIS COMPLETE\* 8 CABINET SCHREIBER RIGID KITCHEN GUARANTEED INCLUDING AN INTEGRATED DISHWASHER AND FATEG OVEN, HOB AND EXTRACTOR See in-store for claims details



### Carey urges caring society

vesterday paid tribute to Diana, tember arose partly because we Princess of Wales in a New Year's message which called for Britons to continue her work in society." building a more caring society.

High Tides

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Sun and Moon

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At the end of a year of "big changes and of deep emoemerging "of a wistful longing for a better world".

He said: "The death of Diana, Princess of Wales, gave these thoughts and feelings a vivid and dramatic expression. For here was someone who, though intensely human and fallible like all of us, expressed kindness.

She was, in the deepest sense of the word, a 'caring' person. And perhaps that amazing

The Archbishop of Canterbury outpouring of grief last Seprecognised in Diana some of those hopes for a more caring

Simple human kindness has been sacrificed over the past decade in the drive for success tions", Dr George Carey said he and in the greater emphasis on believed a new mood was competition, the Archbishop said.

"The tremendous outpourings of widespread grief following the deaths of Princess Diana on 31 August 1997 and Mother Teresa of Calcutta a few days later reveal that it was now time to reclaim those values," he added.

Dr Carey went on: "A caring society won't emerge by magic, or because the Government passes some bills, or even

because there is some strong public desire for it. A caring society will come into being when we learn to care, when each one of us makes it our personal determination to live more caring

He said he had been deeply moved, especially in recent months during his visits to the Children's Society charity, at the kindness of ordinary

"I've seen at first hand the devotion and love of volunteers who give time to raise money and to care for children," Dr Carey said.

They - and others like them - are the unsung heroes in our communities whose loving kindness makes things

## homeworks

HOLIDAY SHOPPING HOURS: Thursday New Year's Day 10-6, Scottish stores closed New Year's Day, Friday 9-8, Saturday 9-6, Sunday 11-5 Monday 19-8, Tuesday 10-6, Wednesday 10-6. Northern Ireland exceptions: Friday 9-9, Sunday 1-6, Monday 10-6, Wednesday 10-9



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### 'Sun' backs down over naming minister's son

Legal confusion over identifying the cabinet minister's son allegedly caught dealing in drugs intensified after an injunction banning publication of his name. As police reject claims of political pressure, Michael Streeter, Legal Affairs Correspondent, looks at the continuing row.

The Sun newspaper said yesterday that it would not appeal against an injunction won by the Attorney-General preventing it from naming the 17-year-old son of a cabinet minister accused of dealing in drugs.

But questions were raised about the "appearance" of double standards of secking legal action when - albeit under a previous cases.

protester known as "Animal" was arrested and charged with obstruction in January last year she was widely named in the media. No injunction was sought by law officers to prevent her being named, say critics. At the time. the Home Office was reported to be considering a change in the law, but no action was taken.

The White Paper on Youth Justice, published by the Home Secretary, Jack Straw, last year, called for "more openness"in youth court proceedings. It stated: "Justice is best served in an open court where the criminal process can be scrutinised and the offender cannot hide behind a cloak of anonymity."

On Tuesday evening, Mr Justice Moses granted the Attorney-General, John Morris QC, an injunction banning the Sun from publishing the name of the minister's son. He ruled that while previous administration - such the Children and Young Persons

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**OPENING HOURS** 

Monday-Saturday; Most stores Sam-8pm. Most stores England & Wales 10am-4pm (where per

Scalland 9am-spm & Northern Ireland 1pm-spm.

Wales & Northern Ireland 10cm-com. Scotland CLOSED.

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contempt publication could prejudice a trial, add to the burden of any sentence and wrongly stop the trial judge banning publication of identity during the case.

Media lawyer Dan Te solicitors Lovell White Durrant, said the ruling "strained" the law of contempt as previously understood. Walter Greenwood, editor of Essential Law for Journalists, praised the integrity of the Attorney-General, but said the seeking of the injunction "gave the appearance of double standards".

The Sun said yesterday it had been considering whether to challenge the legal ban but had decided against it. Some observers saw the paper's failed attempt to publish the name as a ploy to draw attention from the rival Mirror, which ran the story before Christmas.

Paul Cavadino, principal officer of the National Association action had not been taken in Act 1933 protecting a juvenile's for the Care and Resettlement

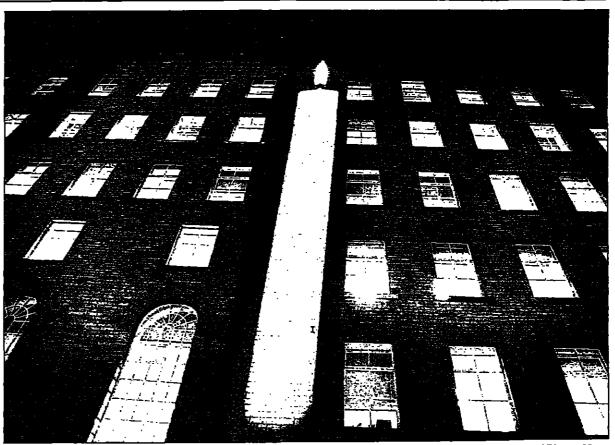
When a 16-year-old roads did not apply, under the law of junction, adding: "It is important to remember that the anonymity rule exists to protect juvenile. defendants, not to protect their parents from embarrassment."

> Sources close to the minister say he would be willing to talk about the matter if he were not constrained by the law. He is bound by the injunction.

The Tory spokesman on home affairs, Sir Brian Mawhinney, said the case had become a "slow torture process" for the cabinet minister's family. Meanwhile. Acting Metm-

politan Police Commissioner Sir

Brian Hayes has rejected claims of political pressure over the case, including the arrest of Mirror reporter Dawn Alford who broke the story. Ms Alford's arrest was part of normal police practice and had not been ordered by the Crown Prosecution Service. although they had been consulted as is usual at "all stages of complex or high profile cases", he said. Sir Brian said police sent the



A 70ft image of a candle is projected on to the side of the Dean Clough arts centre in Halifax as part of Photo 98 - a series of images designed to transform public places. The candle, by artist Paul Bradley, will get smaller during the year. As part of Photo 98, The Independent will be exclusively showing a series of photographs of the century. We will publish 98 pictures - one for every year of the century - in The Eye, starting on Monday

### Trimble warns of violence as tension mounts in Ulster

David Trimble had an angry meeting with Mo Mowiam yesterday as tensions mounted in Ulster. Colin Brown, Chief Political Correspondent, says the Uister Unionist leader warned her that the province faced more violence.

After the acrimonious meeting at Stormont the Secretary of State for Northern Ireland agreed to consider the Unionists' demands for a public inquiry into the killing of Billy Wright, the lovalist leader, in the Maze prison.

"We are in a very delicate situation, and a very dangerous situation," Mr Trimble said. "I'm very glad, of course, that [Tucsday] night went off peacefully. distrust for Ms Mowlam, Mr as regard the future.

into the security lapse at the Maze which led to INLA gunmen shooting Wright dead in a prison van inside the prison.

There are fears that a public inquiry would be turned into a trial of the Government's policy for peace, and would be used to challenge the concessions which the Unionists believe have gone too far in appeasing the IRA in return for in her in the Unionist commuthe continued ceasefire.

The meeting was tense after one of Mr Trimble's MPs had called for Ms Mowlam's resignation. Mr Trimble said last night that she was reconsidering her decision to have the pre-Christmas break-out from the Maze and the Wright killing investigated by the English prison

Underlining the Unionist not just some flip phrase thrown comments.

Ministers have instigated a off to satisfy the meeting and thorough internal investigation that it would be followed up quickly so we have a proper independent inquiry with its report published.

The Ulster Unionist leader described the discussions as "very disappointing". He said: "We did not get any proper answers to the questions we He told Ms Mowlam that the

complete absence of confidence nity stemmed "from the correct perception that the Secretary of State has been concerned merely to appease and assuage the feelings of republicans".

After the meeting Ms Mowlam had discussions with Alan Shannon, head of the Northern Ireland Prison Service and John Steele, director of security and policing at the North-

A spokesman said they were I don't have a similar confidence Trimble said he hoped "this was considering Mr Trimble's

### Cash boost to bring dentists into NHS

The Government will announce today an extra £10m to get more dentists to treat patients on the NHS.

The money will boost a scheme called Investing in Dentistry" which was launched in Scotember in an attempt to reverse the exodus of dentists from the NHS under the

Many dentists reluctantly dropped NHS work, and went private, in protest at the failure to raise their fees from the NHS work, and a massive increase in the amount of paperwork they had to do.

The health minister, Alan Milburn, has privately told colleagues he wants to make the revival of NHS dentistry one of his priorities in the coming year, which marks the 50th anniversary of the tax-based health service, free and in conception based on need, not the ability to pay.

The extra cash will expand existing practices or set up entirely new ones, to increase the numbers of NHS-registered patients. It could include training and back-to-work packages for dentists who have taken career breaks, or start-up programmes for trainees to set up in general

He is also announcing today that £415,000 will be spent to lay the ground for 25 personal dental services pilot schemes as part of the drive to improve primary care.

The pilot schemes, which will begin in October 1998, include a practice in Cambridgeshire which will focus more on preventative work; a specialist orthodontic referral service in Bedfordshire; and the provision of more general anaesthetic sessions for dentists to work in hospitals on the NHS in Northumberland.

Other schemes will including block contracts for extractions in Avon; attempts to reduce inequalities in disease and treatment in Lambeth, south London: a one-stop centre in Bromley, south-east London; and the use of a salaried dentist service in the Scilly Isles to create a safety net in an area where patients have severe problems in getting access to NHS dentistry.

— Colin Brown Chief Political Correspondent

### **Headless corpse** was teenage boy

A dismembered, headless body found dumped in a bin at the back of a hotel in Blackpool was that of a teenage boy. police said yesterday.

Police have identified him as 17-yearold Christopher Hartley, who had been working at the resort's Pleasure Beach. The naked body, which had been cut in two with a sharp instrument, was discovered on Tuesday.

The man leading the investigation, Detective Superintendent Paul Buschini, said a post-mortem had not been able to establish how the teenager died.

Police were yesterday conducting house-to-house inquiries of nearby bedsits and hotels to try to find clues as to where the youngster might have met his death. They were also continuing to search for the missing head. It is believed fingerprints were used to identify the boy. Christopher had gone to Blackpool from his home in Burnley, Lancashire,

### Cancer fight over

seeking work.

A cancer victim lost her fight for life yesterday after battling to spend one last Christmas with her haby daughter.

Helen Bourton, 27, who was terminally ill with breast cancer, found herself embroiled in controversy after Avon Health Authority refused to fund the £10,000 treatment she said she needed to help her stay alive until Christmas.

Friends and family stepped in to pay for a course of the drug Docetaxel and she was able to cuddle her 19-month-old daughter Ellie-Mue from her bed at Bristol Infirmary on Christmas Day.

#### Walker falls 600ft

A walker escaped death yesterday after falling more than 600ft from a mountain. The accident happened on Blencathra near Keswick in the Lake District when the unnamed man and his group of fellow walkers reached a ridge called Sharp Edge close to the summit.

A mountain rescue team were called out after the alarm was raised using a mobile telephone and an RAF helicopter from Kinloss airlifted the man to the Royal Victoria Infirmary in Newcastle. He had suffered spinal, leg and head injuries.



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### Police team saves woman from waves

A woman who was spotted walking into the sea fully clothed and seemingly in a distressed state was scooped from the water in a daring rescue. Ian Burrell describes how she was flown to safety.

For more than 100 yards, the police helicopter "hover-taxed" a few feet above the waves stable Phil Bracegirdle clung to the woman by the wrist, her head barely out of the water.

Yards before the helicopter reached the shore, he released her into the shallow water, before diving in with a colleague. dragging her to the beach and bringing her back to consciousness. The woman, in her late thirties, was later said to be "satisfactory" in a Cardiff hospital.

PC Bracegirdle, 42, an observer on the South Wales and Gwent police helicopter, said: to get her ashore as quickly as "All I could do was to sit out, wrap my legs around the skids and hang on to her. There were no boats around to pick her up so we just had to go for it. It was an incredible piece of flying by Angus. He was rock steady, just high enough to keep the woman's head out of the water."

The helicopter crew were scrambled from their base at Cardiff after a group of fishermen near Sully Beach reported seeing a fully clothed woman

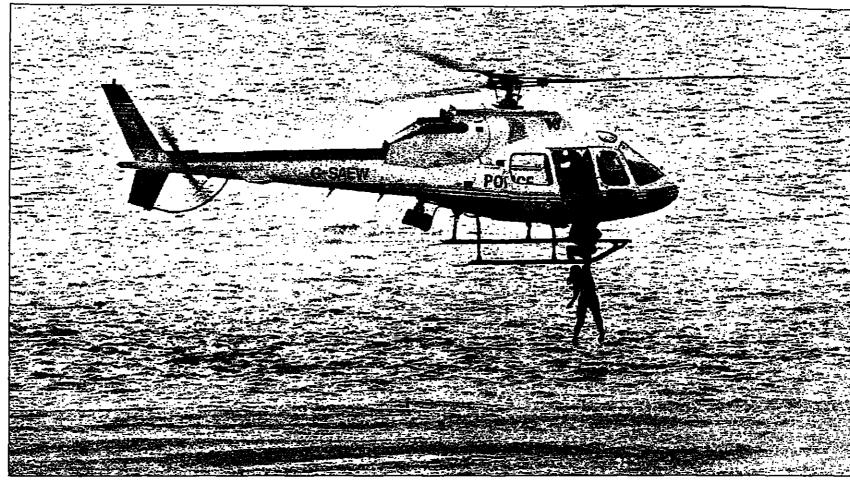
state. Within 10 minutes, Captain Angus Paterson, 32, was hovering over the half-submerged woman who was being swept out further into the Bristol Channel.

An ex-Royal Navy Sea King air-sea rescue pilot, he kept the Squirrel helicopter in position while PC Bracegirdle, attached to a safety harness, climbed out on to the skids two feet below the cabin. Soaked in spray, PC Bracegirdle managed to seize hold of the woman's right wrist at the third attempt and clung on of the Bristol Channel as Con- until he managed to drop down lower and get both hands on her.

"I was absolutely numb with cold and it felt like my arms were being torn out. There was just no other way of getting her ashore. I had no idea whether the woman was alive or dead. But we gave mouth-to-mouth and she started to revive."

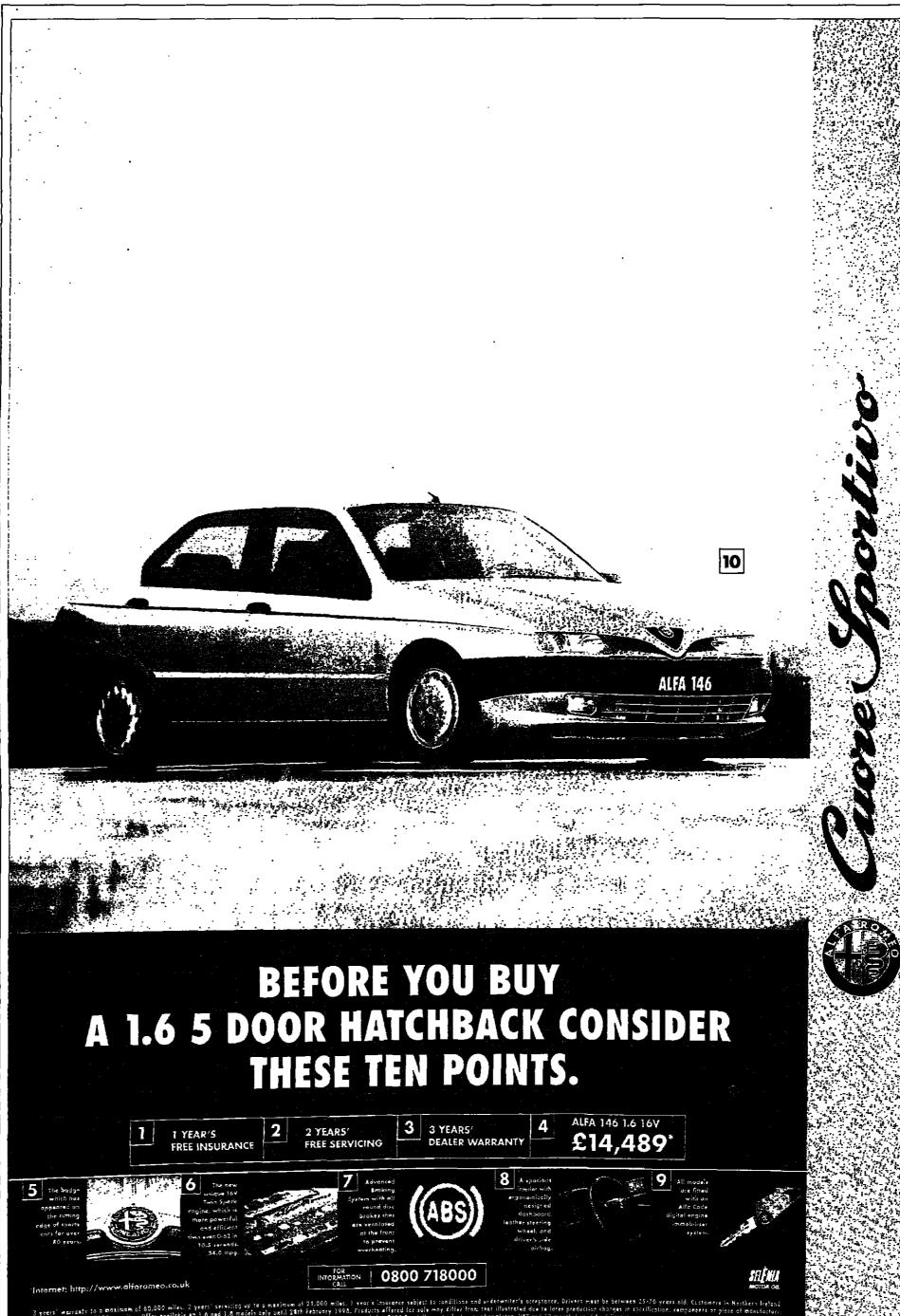
Captain Paterson said: "Phil was the hero of the bour. I just don't know how he had the strength to hang on to her. It possible - but I had to take it slowly to prevent her being swept away and disappearing under the aircraft."

A few feet from the shore Pc Bracegirdle released his grip. With South Wales police colleague Paul Hayes, 35, he then dived into the water and pulled the woman on to the beach. Paramedic Graham Plumridge, making his first belicopter flight, gave first aid until an ambulance



From the skids of the police helicopter, PC Bracegirdle grips the woman's wrist to tow her through the waves of the Bristol Channel to the safety of the Photograph:

Alan Jenkins



### Search begins for water on Moon

The science-fiction dream of colonies on the Moon has never looked practicable: it's too cold and there's no air. But now, scientists have new hope that a space detected. mission will find a reason

to set up a permanent site there. Charles Arthur, Science Editor, explains

Almost 20 years after bumans first walked on the Moon, the US space agency is sending a spacecraft back - not to land as-

tronauts, but to look for water. The immar Prospector spacecraft, due to lift off on Tuesday from Cape Canaveral in Florida, will undertake an 18-month mission which if successful could lead to a land rush comparable with the Klondike's search for gold. Having water available would mean that a Moon base would become feasible, since breathable oxygen could easily be extracted from the water by electrolysis, from the ice can be extracted for

powered by solar energy. That in turn could revitalise the space race, at a time when crewed missions beyond Earth have begun to seem too expensive and pointless because of the difficulty of surviving in the harsh emptiness of space. With the Moon as a staging post, more ambitious missions to the planets, and especially Mars, could be contemplated.

One of the instruments on

board the Prospector spacecraft has been specially designed to detect the presence of hydrogen on the Moon's suriace. It inere is water ice itozet deep in the craters at the Moon's poles, as scientists suspect there might be, it will be

The impetus for the search came in 1994, when a US military satellite picked up unusual radar reflections from deep within craters at the lunar south pole that looked very like those from water ice. One aim of the £40m mission is to discover whether these images were real or just mirages.

"If we can find sufficient water, it's going to be a land rush like the Oklahoma Sooners," said Bill Feldman, project leader for the Los Alamos Laboratory in the US, which provided the hydrogen-seeking

instrument.

"Water is the key resource that will support life as well as travel from the Moon to the planets. Besides sustaining life for Moon colonies, hydrogen rocket fuel." Mr Feldman said. "I am sure that there are people who would colonise the Moon once sufficient water is available," he continued. "The Moon is one of the best environments you could possibly have for any number of scientific

and commercial enterprises." Other instruments will provide clues as to how and when the Moon formed and map the Moon's irregular magnetic field.

#### DAILY POEM

#### The Little Dog

By Selima Hill

were crushed together in a solid lump and chilled for a million years and given legs. and set to walk alone along our streéts, it would not be as icy cold as you whose heart is frozen like a linle dog that's lost its way far out on the snow, and people searched it was a much-loved dog hut long ago gave up and turned for home.

If all the glassy skyscrapers of Chicago

This week's poems come from the five volumes shortlisted for the 1997 Whitbread Poetry Award. The winner will be announced next Tuesday, 6 January, along with the other Whitbread winners for biography, fiction and first novels. "The Little Dog" is taken from Selima Hill's Violet (Bloodaxe, £6.95).

### 6/SECRET PAPERS

### Blacks seen as threat to national security in the Sixties

curity risks unless they can show into Britain and "their trust-

That was the judgement, 30 used the word "coloured". Ac- organisations". cording to a report he compiled

Black people are potential spies. - now released under the 30-They have to be treated as se- year rule and open at the Public Record Office - coloured evidence of their "assimilation" people may become "disaffected through real or imagined acts worthiness in handling its affairs". of racial discrimination; consequently they may be vulnerable years ago, of the top civil ser- to inducements offered by vice coordinator of the nation's hostile intelligence services or intelligence services, except he to the influence of subversive

Sir Laurence Helsby, whose for the Ministerial Committee day job was permanent secreon Security in September 1967 tary to the Treasury, headed the

He was reporting to ministers on the operations of the vetting system and told them few blacks were likely to pass "positive vetting" - the procedure in which a full background check is compiled by the police and Security Service (ML5).

Immigrants had to have lived in the UK for at least 10 years before they could be positively

UK origin in general cannot be similation into this country and assumed to have an inherent loy- of their trustworthiness in han-

BY DAVID WALKER AND JOHN CROSSLAND

alty to this country. The risk to dling its affairs." Sir Laurence vetted; even then they would not security which arises may, how-was a clever man and conbe considered for the diplomatic ever, be reduced if there is sat- scious that he could sound

plained, lay in checking the backgrounds of coloured im- comprised black people. But migrants in their countries of origin. He was aware, too, that there was a growing problem.

Immigration into the United Kingdom had been controlled since the early Sixties but, this being the cra of full employment, Whitehall was repeople into manual and junior clerical jobs. In London, near-

Official Committee on Security. or security services. "Staff not of isfactory evidence of their as-racist. The problem, he ex-ly half the intake to clerks' positions in some departments they could not be trusted with classified documents. And that posed management problems.

It could be, said Sir Laurence, that someone with less than 10 years' residence might provide evidence of their assimilation. Conversely, someone cruiting large numbers of black might have lived in Britain for more than a decade and still not "put down firm roots".

♠ A Home Office spokesman said yesterday that nowadays the Government was an equal opportunities employer which did not discriminate on grounds of colour - and that includes the Security Service, MI5.

Positive vetting rules were applied regardless of colour. However, the Cabinet Office is known to be disturbed by the relative lack of ethnic minority

people in senior positions across

Castro's gift

turned down

The Prime Minister, Harold

Wilson, refused to accept a

gift of a 10lb box of cigars

from Cuban Communist

leader, Fidel Castro, on the

grounds it might be "misin-

terpreted" as payback for a

recent bus contract from

Cuba won by a British con-

that if Wilson smoked the cig-

ars himself he would have to

foot a bill for £27 10 shillings

and 5 pence (£27.52) for

carriage and customs duty.

Instead, the cigars went to

Government Hospitality to

be offered to official guests.

Student loans

The replacement of student

grants by loans - bitterly op-

osed by Labour when introduced by the Thatcher

government - was proposed

in 1967 by Labour Education

Secretary Tony Crosland.

Crosland wanted to fend off

Treasury demands for cuts in

Whitehall was insisting

by Wilson

Whitehall.

### Mistrust of au pairs and diarists

Perhaps all governments get paranoid but Harold Wilson's 1964-70 administration seems to have been fixated on questions of loyalty and conspiracy.

According to the official papers, the Cabinet met several times to discuss whether ministers could keep diaries (three of them - we now know - were furiously scribbling notes for their own subsequently published diaries even as the discussion proceeded). The Prime Minister received MI5 reports on the reading habits of one of his closest colleagues on the train. ministers were told to check who they employed as au pairs, and precious Cabinet time was taken up discussing whether living people - ie the Prime Minister - could legitimately be represented on the theatre stage.

Meanwhile, London was a focus of genuine spies. But the one case featured in the papers now open did not, despite the Cold War, involve the Communists. The South African Intelligence Service - later to haunt Harold Wilson in the Seventies. if the accounts of renegade MI5 officer Peter Wright are to be believed - recruited a Treasury typist in a reverse "honey trap". A good looking young man started taking her out, then paid her to filch secret reports on the Rhodesian situation.

Richard Crossman - Lord President of the Council and author of famous diaries providing intimate detail of the Wilson era - was the subject of several Security Service reports. He was seen reading in the dining car of a train and (according to MI5) "an observer was able to read the titles of some of the files and papers7. They were classified documents.

Wilson dispatched Sir Burke Trend, the him the riot act.

Meanwhile, Whitehall was convulsed by the Great Au Pair Hunt. "The number of au pair girls and domestics arriving in the UK from Communist countries is increasing", read a letter dispatched from No 10 to ministers' offices. "It is felt that the presence of such a person in a household could be used by an intelligence service in ways which could be inimical to the interests of security in this country.'

But after the trawl, it was discovered that only the wife of junior minister Peter Shore - the Euro rebel who retired from Parliament last year - employed a nanny from eastern Europe. The girl, a Yugoslav called Veona Pastourie, was investigated by MI5 but they had to conclude she was squeaky clean and besides "the Jugoslav in-

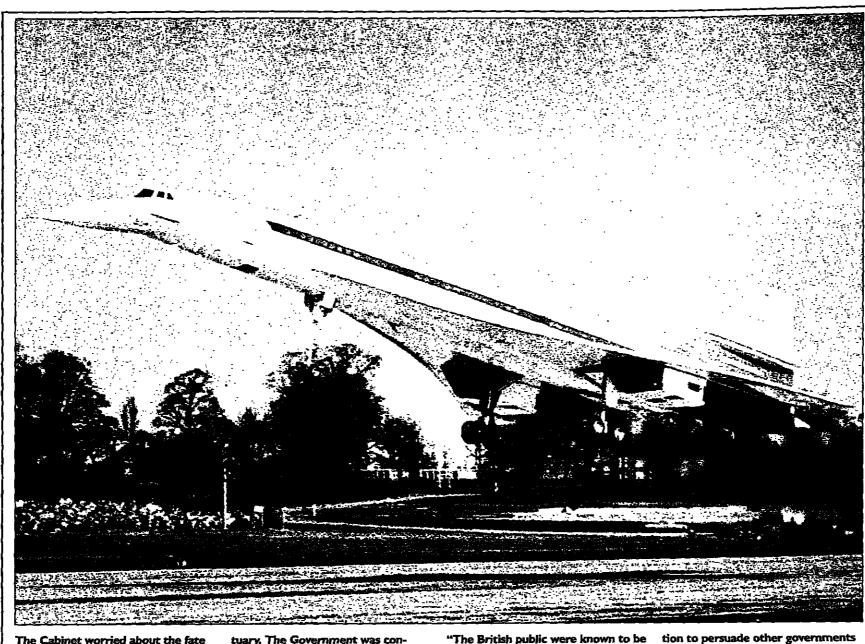
telligence service does not operate here". Mrs Shore was none the less told to get rid of her quickly.

Wilson's dislike of political satire showed up in anguished debates in Cabinet about the ending of the role of the Lord Chamberlain in censoring performances on the live stage. He resisted the abolition of censorship and with good reason, since the long-running play Mrs Wilson's Diary, a satire based on a column in the magazine Private Eye, had been the subject of the Lord Chamberlain's blue pencil.

The records show the then Lord Chamberlain, Lord Cobbold, even sent the already-censored script to Downing Street to see if further cuts were favoured.

On 18 May, a letter was sent from Downing Street to the Lord Chamberlain's office, saying: "The script has been seen by Mrs Wilson, the Foreign Secretary, the Chancellor of the Exchequer [James Callaghan) and Mrs Callaghan, and Colonel Wigg [the Paymaster General and Wilson's security hatchet man ."

As well as the Foreign Secretary's requested cuts, Mrs Callaghan had also asked for two marked passages to be deleted, the letter said.



The Cabinet worried about the fate of York and Beverly ministers if they booms over Hull and the Humber es-

cerned to sell Concorde - the Angloto test public reactions to the bangs.

partiuclarly sensitive about noise, so tile reaction we should be in a posi-

that the nuisance of sonic bangs was of the tests was to be given.

### Alliances and arms deals show flexible morality

George Brown in 1967, it was not "morally acceptable" to condemn the Americans over their involvement in Vietnam. It was, however, morally acceptable to use the Royal Air Force secretly to deliver ammunition to the Israelis on the eve of the Six Day War and to make careful calibrations of the kind of weaponry it was acceptable to supply to the Nigerian military junta for use in the bloody suppression of a revolt by its eastern region, or Biafra as it became known to the world.

The papers demonstrate the then Prime Minister Harold Wilson's pro-Israeli sympathies. Arms deliveries took place from British airfields - RAF Waddington was used by Israeli aircraft to fly out ammunition and shipments left ports at night in sealed car-

At the same time, the Cabinet was draw-

According to Labour Foreign Secretary ing up contingency plans for petrol rationing in the event of an oil embargo by the Arab states. Ministers even suggested that the oil companies, such as ICL might try to obtain petrol from the Soviet Union.

In the event the petrol supply, particularly from Iraq, was cut but the crisis passed without full-scale rationing.

The archive contains a personal letter from Harold Wilson to Levi Eshkol, the Israeli Prime Minister, "I am glad we were able to help you, now I am sure you will understand our concern that the utmost secrecy should be maintained. However good the explanation the story could be used with devastating effect in propaganda against both

Oil was at stake in Nigeria, too. At the outset of the revolt by the Biafrans, each side demanded that the British coerce Shell and BP into paying them their royalties. In ad-

dition, General Yakubu Gowon, the Federal leader, put a 48-hour deadline for acceptance of his demand for additional military equipment to crush the rebel

The advice for BP and Shell was to delav a decision in payments, to "play it as long as possible, putting off the evil day until the end of July". Chiefs of staff drew up two topsecret evacuation plans, using the carrier HMS Albion to lift 16,000 British nationals

out of the war zone. Wilson delayed sending arms to the federal regime as long as possible, finally dispatching 200 anti-aircraft guns and armed cars to the Lagos government. At one point he instituted an inquiry into whether the United States Central Intelligence Agency were providing weapons for Biafra, asking: "Are we really sure they had nothing to do

This was a world where - according to George Brown, the Foreign Secretary - the Communists were "mobilising a skilful worldwide propaganda campaign" on Victnam. To condemn the US, he said in a cabinet memo, is to condemn the major power in the conflict which has publicly proclaimed a policy aimed at securing for the South Vietnamese the right to order their

Harold Wilson had proposed a dramatic joint peace mission with Soviet leader, Alexei Kosygin, to end the war. The suggestion, made at an embassy reception in London in February 1967, seemed to have been treated with no more than mild amusement by the Russian leader. Picking up a fork, Kosygin told Wilson: "If one took a piece of metal and attempted to make a fork without knowhow to do so one would spoil the metal without producing a fork".

#### school budgets so proposed freezing student grants and gradually introducing loans to cover maintenance costs. **Red Guards**

Harold Wilson considered placing the Chinese legation in Portland Place, central London, under armed guard after diplomats dressed like Red Guards began chanting pro-Mao, anti-British slofrom legation steps and police

officers were assaulted. In the event, the government asked the Chinese to close the legation while stopping short of breaking off diplomatic relations with the

### Pay-TV

The Duke of Edinburgh lobbied Harold Wilson on behalf of commercial television interests. In a letter to the Prime Minister the Queen's husband spoke of "interesting" proposals for pay-TV. then being tested experimentally. Wilson, however. was cool: pay-TV would "tend inevitably to deprive the present services of some of their more popular items".

### Bitter wrangle over that pound in your pocket

1967, within the Cabinet but more especially between the Government and its officials, concerned the need to devalue the pound.

This step was eventually taken on 18 November, with great reluctance by Harold Wilson, when the pound's fixed exchange rate against the dollar was reduced from \$2.80 to \$2.40. The Prime Minister famously, and misleadingly, told the nation that "the pound in your pocket" was not worth any less.

Some of the bitterest wrangling during lengths to try and avoid devaluation, one memorandum from Wilson to James Callaghan, then chancellor, warning of "dire" consequences. Apart from the admission of economic failure, the Prime Minister was worried that other countries would respond with competitive devaluations of their own.

However, from Britain's application in May 1967 to join the Common Market, a lower value for the pound was widely expect-

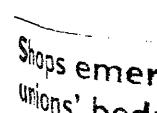
had to borrow nearly \$5bn. A disastrous set of figures for the balance of trade in October made the decision to devalue inevitable.

On 17 November, the day before the announcement, Wilson wrote to Lyndon Johnson, the US President, informing him of it. He expressed relief, writing: "The removal of a certain poison from the system purges the whole system itself." The move was aced. Capital drained out of the country. companied by measures to squeeze demand The Government had gone to great depleting the foreign currency reserves so at home in a bid to reduce the trade deficit.

Labour MPs were in uproar over spending cuts and tax increases amounting to £500m.

This was not enough for the Bank of England, however, which feared that devaluation would trigger inflation. Leslie O'Brien, then governor, sent a letter to the Chancellor calling for even tougher measures.

He refused; it was left to his successor, Roy Jenkins, to introduce further cuts the following year when the pound once again came under pressure to devalue.



THE INDEPENDENT

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Starts this weekend in the Independent on Sunday and continues all next week in The Independent First token in the Independent on Sunday on 4th January

### Roboshops show the 'convenient' way forward

A generation ago they were just grocers. Now the giant supermarkets dominate our lives. As they move into health care, fashion and banking, Ion Burrell tries to envisage the superstores of the future.

In Japan, they call them "noboshops". They are 24-hour stores with such sophisticated computer technology that human staff are superfluous.

choose from single display items placed in long glass cabinets and marked with a number. They make their selection, punch the number into a computer and pay with plastic. The goods are promptly delivered down a

Clive Beddall, editor of The Green magazine, visited one of the stores recently and believes that they could inspire British supermarkets, "Automation will be the thing of the future. I could imagine one of these stores on the Edgware Road, I don't know what the supermarket unions would say because apart from the owner, there were no staff."

According to David Hughes, professor of agriculture at Wve College, University of London, people are becoming which the local shops have had tired of standing in check-out queues to pay for everyday

"We now have leisure shopping for things we like and drudge shopping for things like toilet rolls and nappies." he said. "Drudge shopping is just not sustainable. People hate it."

The stores are having to respond. Iceland and Tesco have already enjoyed success with a new home delivery services. them to do business in the futaken up by some 15,000 customers who can order via phone, fax or the Internet. The head of Tesco Direct, Gary Sargeant, recently unveiled predicted but denied by both plans whereby customers can parties - could precipitate carshop in banks via internet nage in the industry. "It would kiosks.

commentators believe that in smaller players went to the the near future British supermarkets will have an increasing requirement for specialist staff. They believe that the supermarkets are intent on recreating the traditional British high street under a single roof, and to do so they need staff who can provide quality customer service with specialist knowledge, such as butchers, bakers, dryeleaners and so on.

greater floor-space. Allan Breese, client service

markets as modern-day in-

underlined yesterday by the

news that Tesco employs

more trade unionists than any

other private company in

Britain. There are now

80,000 members of the shop-

workers union Usdaw at

Tesco, half the company's

vice industries are replacing

the traditional heavy indus-

tries as the bedrock of British

trade unionism. Between

them the big four supermar-

kets (Tesco, Sainsbury, Asda

and Safeway) now employ

some half a million people.

to move upmarket a decade

ago it decided to allow trade

unions to play a key part in the

consultative process. Tesco

staff to like us and understand

When the company began

workforce.

giants

Shops emerge as

The position of the super- how we want them to treat our

Retailing and other ser- them because the mining,

retail director Michael a peak of 12 million in 1980

Wemms said: "We want our to 6.7 million today.

customers."

unions' bedrock

was

the tastes of a panel of 10,000 consumers, said that the superstores were inevitably going to get bigger and bigger.

The simple reason is that what consumers are looking for is more convenience and more one-stop shopping," he

Asda and Tesco already have sites of 40,000 square feet and Asda would like to build stores that are 50 per cent larger.

Increasing the space to such an extent has allowed Asda to branch out into fashion retailing (with its George clothing line) and it recently announced Shoppers are invited to that it was setting up doctors' surgeries in two of its stores.

Safeway has set up pharmacies and dry cleaners. Sainsbury has established a growing banking service while Tesco has begun selling designer clothing from labels such as Calvin Klein and Levi. Supermarkets are also experimenting with estate agencies, dental care, optician services, and travel agents.

As one analyst said: "It makes you wonder if there are any areas the supermarkets will not go into."

At the same time, the supermarkets are looking to stay open longer. Tesco Metro stores, which are sited in town centres, have already pioneered 24-hour supermarket opening. As Mr Breese pointed out: "All the advantages of convenience are being croded."

outlook, for the minor supermarkets (such as Somerfields, Waitrose, Co-op, Kwiksave, Iceland) are not good. Richard Hyman, chairman of the supermarket analysts Verdict Research, predicted that the "second division" would be increasingly outgunned. "It's going to be harder and harder for

According to Philip Dorgan, retail analyst at Panmure Gordon, a merger between Asda and Safeway - widely force a huge price war which However, other industry might mean that some of the

> The big four (Tesco, Sainsbury. Asda, Safeway) will continue to expand, however, and not just in the United Kingdom, Sainsbury already has interests in the US, while Tesco is eyeing the opportunities in Hungary and the Czech Republic.

But the single European market may mean that the big tour do not get things all their To create an United States- own way. New competition, at style mall, the supermarkets home as well as abroad, could will need to expand to even come from the expansion of the great German supermarket chains such as Tengelmann and director at the market re- Aldi and from French rivals like searchers AGB, which monitors - Carrefour and Auchan.

A generation ago, the big

trade unionist employers

were the likes of British Ley-

land, Ford and British Rail.

Today, the picture is different.

William Brown, professor of

industrial relations at Cam-

bridge University, said: "The

big battalions of unions are

not where you would think of

steel and docks industries

have declined so much in

workforce size. The super-

markets are now the giants of

gress hopes that Teseo's sue-

cess will encourage other

employers to accept that

union recognition does not

necessarily harm profits.

Membership of TUC-affili-

ated unions has dipped from

The Trades Union Con-

the employment world."

## Calvin Klein Underwear

Tesco is using discounted quality brand names, such as Calvin Klein, to attract customers into the stores

### Tesco's move to become the choice of young professionals puts it in the top slot

'big four' supermarket groups. Tesco was once seen as downmarket but led the reshaping of British shopping through out-of-town sites and loyalty cards. What next, asks Jojo Moyes -Internet shopping and Caivin Klein? (Yes, actually.)

It is the biggest of the

In the early Eighties, Heathcore Williams wrote a poem called The Tesco Chainstore Massacre". Its punchline runs: "The people who run Tesco must be Buddhists: there is nothing you could possibly want."

He would not be writing that now, From a "pile-'em-high-sell-'em-cheap" outfit. regarded by many as irredeemably naff, it has reinvented itself as the supermarket for the young professional. Possibly no other supermarket group has undergone such a public

Two years ago, it toppled Sainsbury from the top slot, and has been going from strength to strength ever since, largely on the back of its "unbeatable value campaign", loyalty scheme and a whole range of initiatives that have changed the way supermarkets view customer service, such as the "one in front" pledge to keep checkout queues

under control.

into its current slick, serviceoriented operation - including the in-town Tesco Metros and the 24-hour Tesco Express shops with petrol stations - began with its best-known face, Sir Ian MacLaurin, who left to help rejuvenate British cricket.

In 1959, the young MacLauthe supermarket's founder, and swiftly won himself a job. By the suburbs, we're short of time age of 30 he was Sir Jack's appointed successor, responsible for the decision to abandon the use of Green Shield stamps in an attempt to go upmarket.

Sir lan can be credited with

turning the supermarket's fortunes around with his "operation checkout" which redesigned the layout of shops and then discovering the potential of out-of-town sites. He is one of the people behind the great and highly controversial reshaping of town and country for car-based shopping. But, beyond that, Tesco began to examine customer's interests, such as healthy cating, ethical consumerism and exotic holidays.

flected at least some of that. The change accelerated with chief executive Terry Leahy, when Tesco began its move into financial services two years ago with the launch of Clubcard, Britain's first supermarket loyalty card. Mr Leahy, a Liverpudlian who has retained his Scouse accent and passion for Everton, is a "convinced populist" who understands the needs

and made sure its shelves re-

Described by one analyst as "the hard man of groceries", Mr Leahy is one of the most powcrful people in the country. though heal revels in his ordinariness. He lives with his working wife and three young children in Ponders End, near the Tesco headquarters in rin met Sir John "Jack" Cohen, north-east London, and says: We have children, we live in the

> that's absolutely typical." Mr Leahy's "common touch" enabled him to see that customers would respond to a loyalty card, even while Sainsbury was notoriously dismissive about the idea. Loyalty cards, dehigh-quality scribed in the trade as "stealth micro marketing", allowed Tesco clothes from manufacturers to get up close to its customers

without them knowing. Under Mr Leahy, Tesco's belief is that as there can be only a limited increase in the market for groceries, the growth areas will be in better service and wider choice. So it has focused its efforts in financial services, toiletries, health care and luisure interests. It has also worked on developing its ethithird off such and such at whatcal consumer niche. The recent ever store. I'll go to that ." report by the charity Christian Aid on supermarkets and ethics said Tesco had made more progress than any other such

Mike Donnis, food retail analyst at Societe Generale Strauss Turnbull, says that Tesco is probably "furthest down the line" in terms of looking at what the cus-The transformation of Tesco of the modern working family. unique products like longer as their last good idea.

opening hours, electronic shopping and home delivery. But, he said: "I don't think [home delivery] is going to be the big thing for them in next couple of years because it depends on fax machines and technology. Whereas at Iceland, for example, there's a low technology approach - you go round the supermarket, then they bag it up and deliver it to your home.

"Then again, you get the sophisticated career woman or bloke, they're the type of people who like Tesco Direct. So who knows?" Another high-profile devel-

opment has been the selling of

brand-name

such as Levi and Calvin Klein. "Levi, Calvin Klein etc don't like it because they feel their clothes need to be sold in an environment where shop assistants know about their products. It's not luxury goods, it's decreed as a bargain," said Mr Dennis. "But it works in getting the consumer into the store. Consumers will actually say, 'Oh there's a

Not everything has worked well. Tesco received numerous complaints that it was caught out by the flood of demand for group over a 12-month period. its savings accounts. Questions have also been asked about its ability to retain its increasing market share, as other supermarket groups swiftly copy it. Mr Leahy, the hard populist, tomer wants, and developing and his team are only as good

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### 8/WORLD NEWS

### Kenyan opposition warns of violence if Moi is re-elected

The crisis over Kenya's botched elections deepened yesterday after the two leading presidential candidates said that a victory for President Daniel arap Moi would lead to violence. Ed O'Loughlin reports from Nairobi

The National Development Parthat he believed state security agents were manipulating the electoral commission to ensure another victory for the President's Kenyan African National Union (Kanu). in power since 1963. Speaking after a meeting with Mr Moi's main rival. Mwai Kibaki of the Demo-

cratic Party, Mr Odinga said the minister at the foreign office, be free and fair. Asked if he opposition would not accept a Tony Lloyd, said that reports of victory for Mr Moi because the process was clearly fraudulent.

will lead to violence, to disaster," he said. "The people will not accept it and we shall not Moi, 73, have alleged that the iraccept it."

Polling in the parallel presidential, parliamentary and civic elections began on Monday but had to be extended for accusing the electoral commisan extra day after many voting ty candidate, Raila Odinga, said stations failed to open on time and some failed to open at all. Many constituencies received the wrong ballot papers and there were widespread allegations of ballot stuffing, votebuying and intimidation.

Yesterday, the British government added its voice to the chorus of concern. The junior

irregularities "raised question of sarcasm: "Have you ever marks over the efficiency and "It is clear that this (rigging) credibility of the elections" in the former British territory.

> Candidates opposed to Mr regularities and the extension of voting were part of a plan to facilitate vote rigging by Kanu. On Tuesday, Mr Moi responded by sion of conspiring against him. Kanu, still the favourite to win. has stopped short of calling for the elections to be abandoned.

Yesterday, the chairman of the electoral commission, Samuel Kivuitu, told a press conference that while the commission had "lapsed in the logistics", its errors were not deliberate and it still considered the process to

would resign, he said with a hint heard of anyone resigning in Kenya because of such things?" Despite the confusion and

queues at polling stations observers believe the turnout was between 65 and 80 per cent. Analysts say this could favour the opposition in the parliamentary elections, with many blaming Mr Moi for Kenya's declining economic prospects and rampant corruption and misrule.

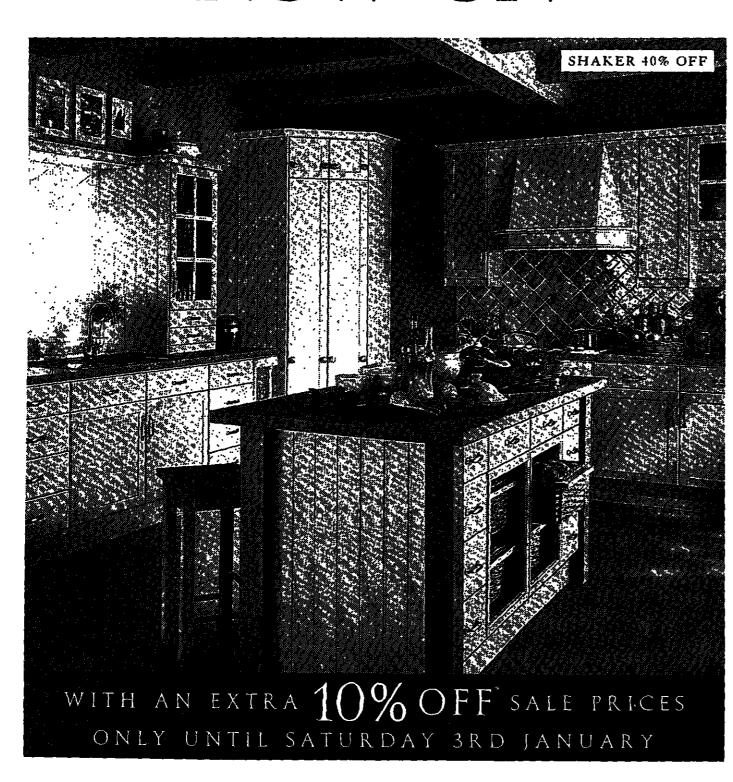
With the opposition vote split between 14 different candidates Mr Moi is certain to come first in the presidential poli but he could face a run-off against the second placed candidate if he fails to win 25 per cent of the vote in any five of Kenya's eight provinces.



Paper chase: Officials argue over a spoiled ballot in a Nairobi constituency

the year

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INDc14

### Monks pray for chicken souls as flu vaccine sought

Buddhist monks in Hong Kong cerned". Angry poultry indus- for some weeks. This means were in their temples yesterday praying to pacify the souls of the chickens and other poultry which have been slaughtered in for the loss of business. an attempt to stop the spread of the mysterious bird flu.

While they were praying. legislators were accusing the government of having lost control over the H5N1 virus outbreak. At a special meeting escalate into an epidemic. they criticised government officials for providing inadequate and contradictory information and questioned whether the slaughter of some 1.3 million nario" occur. It would take birds would be sufficient to some six months to prepare a stop the virus taking hold and causing more deaths.

Chec-hwa, who has been notable for his silence over the bird flu crisis, finally broke it yesterday during a visit to a poul-

higher levels of compensation

Meanwhile Paul Shaw, the deputy director of health, announced that contingency plans had been to close crowded places to minimise the spread of the virus should the outbreak He told legislators that the

government was working on a vaccine that would fight the virus should a "disaster scevaccine, however. Now that the cull of live

The Chief Executive, Tung poultry has been completed the government is trying to en- of medical care is so much lowsure that fresh supplies of live birds from the Chinese mainland do not reintroduce the available in rural areas. try market when he stressed that virus. It therefore seems likely the government was "very con- that a ban on imports will last

try workers chanted slogans there will be no fresh chicken during his visit, demanding supply for the Chinese New Year festivities. Many traditional dishes involve chicken

> The Chinese authorities say that a "special expert investigation" by the Ministry of Agriculture since 17 December found no positive tests from 1,078 chicken blood samples in Guangdong province, which supplies about 70 per cent of Hong Kong's consumption.

Although there have been no reports of human cases of bird flu on the Chinese mainland, this may be because there is less likelihood of it being successfully identified because the standard er than Hong Kong, and diagnostic equipment is not readily

- Stephen Vines, Hong Kong Teresa Poole, Peking

#### Kaunda under house arrest

Zambia's former president, Kenneth Kaunda, was released from prison yesterday evening and flown to the capital Lusaka where he was immediately put under house arrest, witnesses said. Dozens of heavily armed police surrounded the veteran African statesman's house in a Lusaka suburb while he was led inside

President Frederick Chiluba has barred Mr Kaunda from talking to the press and said people would be arrested if caught within 100 metres of his house. - Reuters, Lusaka

#### Diana Fiat driver seen

Witnesses driving near the crash that killed Diana, Princess of Wales saw a white Fiat Uno weaving out of the Pont de l'Alma tunnel in Paris and described its driver. A police report said a couple driving parallel to the tunnel's exit saw the Fiat "zigzagging" as it drove out seconds after the crash on 31 August. The driver was said to be a white male aged about 40. He also had a large dog in the car.

#### Clinton charity wound up

A charitable fund set up three years ago to help defray legal fees incurred by President Bill Clinton and his wife is being wound up for lack of support, leaving the Clintons with more than \$3m (£1.8m) to pay. The fund raised \$1.3m, but contributions fell off sharply this year. According to the fund's director, Michael Cardozo, donors appeared to be scared of associating themselves with Democratic Party fund-raising scandals. The legal fund disbursed more than \$1m in fees, mostly in connection with the Whitewater land deal in Arkansas. — Mary Dejevsky, Washington

#### Ramadan massacre

Twenty-one Algerian civilians were slaughtered overnight in the first 24 hours of Ramadan - the Muslim holy month feared for its tradition of increased civilian bloodletting in Algeria's savage civil strife. Algerian state radio yesterday said the 21 died in a village on Tuesday night in Algeria's western province

### Peking gloats over SA tie

China poached Taiwan's last major diplomatic ally on Tuesday, signing an accord with South Africa to open full diplomatic relations from today. The Chinese Foreign Minister, Qian Qichen, who signed the agreement with his counterpart Alfred Nzo in Pretoria, told Taiwan to give up a doomed diplomatic rivalry with Peking.

#### Swiss 'right to feel rejected'

Flavio Cotti, who takes over Switzerland's rotating presidency today, told the Tribune de Geneve yesterday that the "reaction of disappointment and rejection" felt by many Swiss against "improper attacks" on their country over its dealings with Nazi Germany is "absolutely justified". Mr Cotti said the attacks came from "limited geographical spheres, for example the east coast of the United States, particularly from New York."

- AP, Geneva

### Khatami breaks **US** taboo

The Iranian President, Mohammad Khatami, is to speak directly to the American public next week in a television interview that could mark the end of nearly two decades of hostility between Iran and the United States. The interview - the latest example of the trend towards diplomacy by television - will be aired on the Cable News Network (CNN), probably next Tuesday. It will be conducted by CNN's chief international correspondent, and star female

reporter, Christiane Amanpour That the Iranian President has agreed to speak to a US net-



Christiane Amangour: will interview Iran leader

be conducted by a woman will send powerful signals both to Americans and Iranians about the prospects for change in

Ms Amanpour covered the election won by Mr Khatami last year and has reported from Iran on several occasions before and since, touching on sensitive issues like the position of women, but always wearing a headscarf in deference to local sensibilities.

The White House, where officials are said to be locked in debate about the genuineness of recent Iranian overtures to the US, was reportedly preparing to respond to Mr Khatami very soon after the broadcast.

--- Mary Dejevsky,

Corune Dufka Reuse

## ought

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he Chimese automate a Special explicit of a by the Ministry of ire since 17 De. d no positive tiery Schucken blood and ngding province is lies about 100 7 ..... & Mong & consumer hthough there have a rist of human areas the Chinese marbe because there is well ad on at being success. affed because the care दर्शक्कां कार्य हिन्दा संस्ता ын Ненц Капд, ал 🛴 ik equipment o tot oc able is more access.

### hatami reaks IS tabo

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### The year the money kept on rolling in for Hollywood

Cinema admissions and box-office takings have hit record highs in the United Kingdom and America during 1997. Poul McConn, Media Correspondent, examines the boom.

"Folks don't laugh when you have a grand in your back pocket," said Robert Carlyle in The Full Monty and well he might. The film cost its makers, Twentieth Century Fox and Channel 4, £2.2m to make and so far has taken almost £100m world-wide. Those kind of crazy returns are symptomatic of what has been a record breaking year for the cinema.

The Full Monty has kept its nose in front of Men In Black to be the most successful film of the year in the UK, taking £44.3m at the box office according to the latest figures from the cinema industry.

In all there are estimated to have been 137 million cinema admissions in the UK, up 11 per cent on last year and the highest since 1974.

The bumper admissions – 2.6 million people visit the cinema each week - helped push 15 films above the £10m takings mark for the first time.

The year also saw Britain's biggest ever admissions weekend when Men in Black and The Lost\_World,-Steven Spielberg's sequel to Jurassic Park, opened on 1 August.

The boom in British cinema admissions has been attributed to the multiplex cinemas that have given Britain its highest number of screens for 35 years. But experts believe the bumper year was also film-driven because it was reflected across the

In America box office revenues topped the eye-boggling \$6bn (£3.75bn) mark for the first time and looks set to close at a



Big box office: 'The Lost World: Jurassic Park' helped Hollywood to a record year and Britain's cinemas to their biggest ever weekend

record-breaking \$6.4bn when the final receipts are counted.

In all, Hollywood has produced 15 of what the industry officially describes as "blockbusters - films that make more than \$100m, which is around £60m, in revenues. So far these have been led by Men in Black which took \$244m in the US. Even Titanic, which needed

two studios joining together to finance its \$200m price tag and has been beset by delays and negative rumours, is heading for a healthy profit after breaking the three-day box-office record when its opening weekend took

Good returns from My Best

have all boosted Hollywood's confidence after years of worand the amount being spent on the top stars' fees.

Now if even Titanic can make a profit, budgets at studios Friend's Wedding (\$127m), are expected to hit the stratos- hyped but critically panned Batwhich starred Julia Roberts. phere. "The studios are built man and Robin, which will need inade with American money but

told the New York Daily News. Cruise Control which lost \$70m. "You can't just make small rying about the size of budgets movies. So it's safe to say we'll be looking for another block-

> The only major failures of the year have been the over-

buster."

The Lost World (\$230m) and the around such movies," 20th Cen-video release revenues to cov-Jim Carey film Liar (\$181) tury Fox executive Tom Sherak er its \$190m costs and Speed 2:

Britain has had its share of world-wide success. Tomorrow Never Dies is set to become the most profitable Bond movie ever after taking \$140m worldwide in its first 10 days on release. Like The Full Monty it was

relied largely on British crews and creative talent.

The other big British hits were the very different Bean and The English Patient. Bean cost \$22m to make and brought in a tidy \$200m from the US. which is a long way from Not The Nine O'Clock News for its director Mel Smith and star

TOP DRAWS

Five times five of the best in film in 1997:

British box-office top five: 1. The Full Monty (£44.3m) 2. Men in Black (£35.8m) 3. The Lost World: Jurrassic Park (£25.3m) 4. Bean (£17.5m)

Empire magazine's top five 1. LA Confidential 2. Jerry Maguire

5. Star Wars (£16.3m)

3. Romeo and Juliet 4. The English Patient 5. Swingers

The Face's top five 1. Romeo and Juliet 2. LA Confidential 3. When We Were Kings 4. Nil by Mouth 5. Swingers

Melody Maker's top five 1. The Full Monty 2. A Life Less Ordinary 3. Romeo and luliet 4. Men in Block 5. Star Wars (Trilogy)

The Independent's film critic Ryan Gilbey's top five: Best film: Romeo & Juliet Best British pictures: Nil By Mouth and The English Patient Best blockbuster: Men in Black Funniest film: *Hirting With* 

> Compiled by James Francker

The English Patient took a similar amount world-wide as well as picking up a startling 12 Ralph Fiennes' character

said in The English Patient that in memory love lasts forever. It is likely that the movie industry will stay in love with the memory of 1997 for a long time to

### **Favourite** things that made the 20th century - and guess who chose the milk bottle ...

Celebrities are choosing their favourite objects to epitomise the 20th Century for the exhibition that will open the new Museum of Scotland. David Lister, Arts News Editor, casts his eye over their selections.

Sean Connery chose a milk bottle with a special message in it, as a momento of his and Scotland's past.

Trainspotting author Irvine Welsh sug-



the 1967 Scotland victory over England at Wembley. Newsnight presenter Kirsty Wark chose a less romantic, more materialist perspective on 20th century life than her male colleagues. She settled on a Saab

jects they believe have made a major impact on 20th Century life. or just something that relates to their own 20th Century story. A selection of their choices will feature in an exhibition that will open the new Museum of Scotland later this year.

gested footballer Jim Baxter's shirt from seum in Chambers Street, Edinburgh.

opens on St Andrews Day, 30 November. chosen the European Cup, because in 1967

fore Bond, was as a milkman, made his

choice because "it reminded me of my cardays in Edinburgh as a delivery boy". he says. But inside will be a copy of the Arbroath Declaration, the 1320 declaration of independence that accompanied the easier to do." ascent of Robert The Bruce to the throne of Scotland.







convertible, a milk bottle and a microphone. But who chose them to go on display in the Edinburgh gallery? Was it Sean Connery, Kirsty Wark or James Naughtie?

1useum pieces: A Saab

#### 1998. The first exhibition in the Twentieth - it was won by a team composed entirely Century Gallery will feature a selection of of 11 Scotsmen [playing for Glasgow objects selected by both ordinary people and Scottish celebrities. Sean Connery, whose first job, well beconvertible.

Celebrities have been choosing the ob-The museum, adjoining the Royal Mu-

Celtiel, a feat he concedes is unlikely to be repeated in the remainder of this century, or any century.

lain Banks, the best-selling author, selected the computer. He explains: "I never regarded the typewriter as being much hetter than a quill pen. But the computer has made writing much lees stressful and James Naughtie of Radio 4's Today pro-

gramme makes an appropriate choice: the Pat Lally, Lord Provost of Glasgow, has microphone, "It has done for our centu-

MELODY MAKER

Readers' poll best LP

of the year

I. Radiohead:

Oh. Computer

2 The Verve:

Urban Hymns

3. Oasis:

ry what the printing press did in a previous century. It has revolutionised communication, and it's great fun to use," he

Other choices include platform boots from fashion designer Jacqui Burke, a First World War tin hat which belonged to the father of Magnus Linklater, journalist and chairman of the Scottish Arts Council (the belmet took an enemy bullet and saved his father's life); and a metal ice-axe from mountaineer Hamish MacInnes - an object he actually invented.

As for Kirsty Wark, her choice of an

museum, as Saab has told the management it would be prepared to dismantle one and build it again to get it into the building. Ms Wark justified her choice to the newspaper Scotland on Sunday, saying: "The thing is, when you reach the far side of 40 you look a bit silly in a sports car, but in an open-topped Saab you can run around until you are 85. I'm also a shoe fetishist. so I would have to have a pair of Converse trainers, not the boots, and in the original putty-white not all these new-fangled colours. I'm going to be labelled as some kind of tag-hag, but Converse is part of the open-top car might yet appear in the new classic American culture which I thrive on."

### Independent spirit keeps British pop on a high note

The British and American film industries have been boosted this year by the majors investing in so-called independent film makers. The music industry could broadly be said to have done the same thing.

When the big labels invested in indie bands such as Oasis and Blur and decided to call them Britpop they sparked a new wave of album-buying in a public that because of dance music had got out of the habit of having rock n'roll heroes.

While Blur were reinventing themselves with their eponymous album, Oasis's muchhyped Be Here Now was not met

with great critical approval. So, this year, for Oasis and Blur read The Verve and Radiohead. Both bands have the most nominations from assorted critics for best album - Urban Hymns and OK ComNME Best albums of the year.

| Spiritualized: Ladies and Gentlemen We Are Floating in Space

2. Radiohead: **OK Computer** 3. The Verve: Urban Hymns 4. Primal Scream Vanishing Point 5. Superfurry Animals:

Radiator

puter respectively - and both were commercially successful.

While album of the year is of course a matter of taste, that taste in 1997 seems to be dictated less by your membership of a musical tribe. Instead consensus reigns over most of the

MIXMAG Dance music albums

of the year 1. The Chemical Brothers: Dig Your Own Hale 2 Reprazent

New Forms 3. The Prodigy: The Fat of the Land 4. Daft Punk Homework 5. Etienne De Crecy Presents: Super Discount

lists for best album.

And this does not mean that the guitar bands have seen off dance music, 1997 was the year when everyone went clubbing and James Palumbo's empire at the Ministry of Sound stretched into politics and the media.

THE FACE

Albums of the Year I. Daft Punk:

Homework 2. Radiohead: **OK Combuter** 3. The Verve: Urban Hymns 4. Missy Elliott Supa Dupa Fly 5. Spiritualized:

Ladies And Gentlemen We Are Floating In Space

Rather the musical consen-

sus dictates that faceless dance

music compilations in their

myriad forms rest happily in CD collections next to the sic or guitar bands British tastes "Oxbridge guitar rock" of Radiohead.

Be Here Now 4. The Prodigy: The Fat of the Land Superfurry Animals: Radiator

in 1997 encompassed both. Certainly, the fact that the Indeed The Prodigy's complex synthesiser-generated

### Q MAGAZINE Readers' poll top five album

of all time

l. Radiohead: **OK Computer** 2. The Beades: Revolver

5. Nirvana:

3. REM Automatic for the People 4. Stone Roses: The Stone Roses

Nevermind

rock/dance music crossover aldance sounds of Reprazent (by the DJ Roni Size) unexpectedbum The Far of The Land is evly won the Mercury Music Best idence enough that rather than being dedicated to dance mu-Album prize suggests that in Britain, at least, there is no shortage of new ideas about what constitutes mainstream

**3** 





Best of British: Albums by The Verve (top) and Radiohead gained critical and commercial success

New York City is today commemorating the 'consolidation' of I January 1898, when it expanded its borders to embrace Queens, Staten Island and Brooklyn. Overnight, it became the world's second largest city after London. But, as our correspondent discovers, there are some who still believe it was all a huge mistake.

Ken White remembers when Brooklynites could walk the waterfront by its bustling shipping piers and recognise one anheads 10 paces away". He recalls summer days when he and the other boys would skinny-dip under the Brooklyn Bridge, "waving naked at the tourist boats".

Those times are long gone. High chain-link fences block all are empty now, dark skeletons that have partially collapsed into the East River, their pilings neighbourhood here any more."

### BY DAVID **USBORNE**

says Mr White, over breakfast in the Coffee Shop on Atlantic Avenue, "All that's gone".

Historians could debate for years the reasons for the decline of Brooklyn; the decline of its shipping heritage to the evaporation of its industrial base and even the departure to the West Coast of its beloved baseball main culprit: Manhattan.

It is 100 years ago today that the then New York City, cona wild landgrab, absorbing Queens. Staten Island and all of what, until the night before, had been America's fourth largest Brooklyn.

The annexation, first prodrew Haswell Green, in a stroke raised Gotham's population from 2 to 3.4 million and increased its land area from 44 square miles to 300.

Thus, it vaulted itself to be-

coming America's biggest city - eclipsing Chicago - and the second largest in the world, overtaking Paris and coming second only to London.

Today, and throughout the year, special celebrations will mark the so-called "consolidation" that gave birth to New York City as we still know it. Rudolph Giuliani, re-elected mayor last November, will hold inauguration parties in all five boroughs today. In the months ahead, there will be lectures, museum exhibitions and a centenary concert in Central Park.

If Manhattan is your viewpoint, especially lower Manhattan where Wall Street is showering wealth like never before, there is assuredly reason to give thanks. Assume other "from the backs of their that the purpose of consolidation was to establish New York as a hub for all of the Western hemisphere if not of the whole world - financial, mercantile and cultural - then you must conclude it paid off.

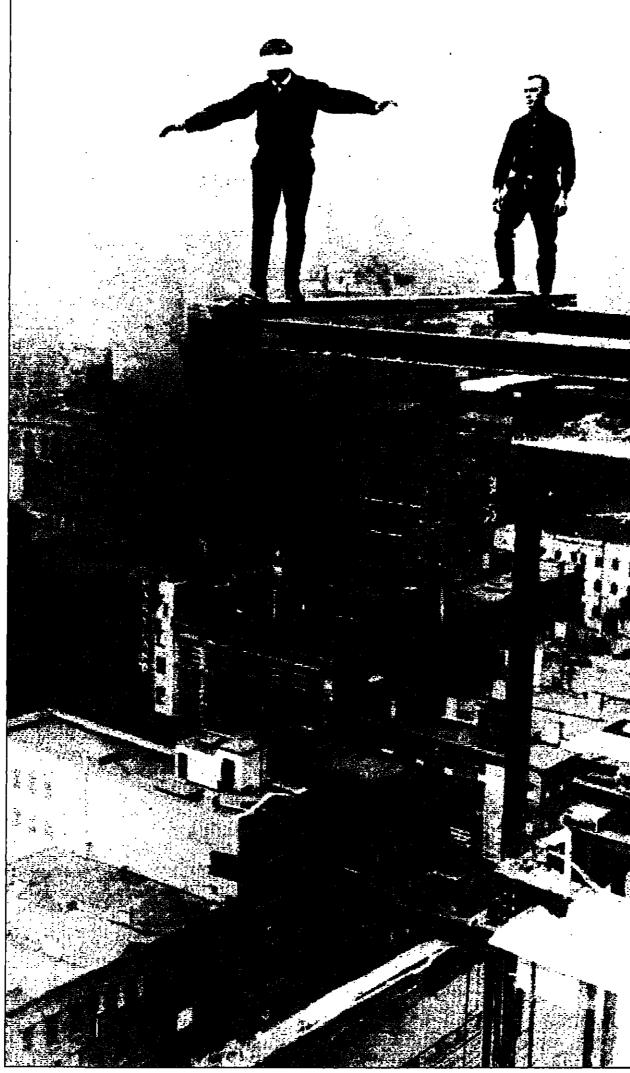
Imagine, says Kenneth Jackson, chairman of the history access to the water and the piers department at Columbia University, what might have befallen the city otherwise, "Just a bunch of tall buildings in a tiny rising from the water like rot- city wouldn't be the same ting teeth. "There is no sense of image," he suggests. "It's helped that it has this gargantuan

> Similar enthusiasm is voiced by the historian Robert Caro. "Consolidation is a tame word for such a magnificent moment," he waxed. "What we're celebrating is the moment the city received critical mass. It's the definitive moment in the history of New York. By bringing together together the five boroughs in one instant, this became the greatest city in the New World".

In Brooklyn, sentiments are lightly different. While Brooklyn shares in some of the current fortunes of the city at large, such as fast-falling crime team, the Dodgers. But Mr rates, it knows as well as any White, 65, a retired ware- other borough how wide the gap houseman born directly under has recently become between New York's rich and poor. Unlyn Bridge, is clear about the employment in the borough is at 10 per cent, one of the highest rates in all of the country.

Most residents still rememsisting only of Manhattan and ber consolidation as the "Great a portion of the Bronx, made Mistake", that was opposed at the time by preachers and by its once-mighty newspaper, the Brooklyn Daily Eagle. Among the concerns then expressed was city and one of its proudest: that the union with Manhattan would open Brooklyn to an influx of Manhattan's immigrant posed 30 years earlier by An-hordes that would for everchange its character. As, in

> Brooklynites, none the less, voted in favour of the merger in an 1894 referendum, largely in the hope of drawing on Man-



High jinks: For a century, Brooklyn has been in the shadow of Manhattan's skyscrapers

slimmest of margins - 65,744 to

What happened is that City Hall [in Manhattan] instead took everything out of Brooklyn and gave nothing back," laments Mr White. "They used our income to improve Manhattan".

Other, more famous Brook-

came dependent on hand-outs. New York City Museum, where

tablished the new, enlarged metropolis will be on display for the rest of the year, the borough historian of Brooklyn, John Manbeck, offered this tartlyphrased birthday message: "In the words of Dodgers fans, 'We was robbed'. Happy Anniversary to New York City from the forgiving people of

Brooklyn".

Photograph: Hulton Getty

### DC rejoices as Clinton learns to love his capital

a new chief executive and evidence of fresh interest from the White House, Washington DC is at a turning point. Mary Dejevsky asks whether this muchmaligned city, which combines some of the most elegant town planning in the United States with some of the country's most hopeless ghettos, could finally change for the better.

The last month of the old year was a kaleidoscope of activity for the US capital. Just before Christmas, the city named an aggressive, no-nonsense Texan, Camille Barnett (aka the Dragon Lady), to be chief executive. Seen as highly competent, highly intelligent, but less than diplo-. matic, Ms Barnett has ruffled feathers in previous appointments and is deemed quite capable of doing the same again.

Less than two weeks before that announcement, the Metropolitan Baptist Church in north-west Washington had welcomed an unaccustomed speaker to its Sunday morning service: the President of the United States, It was Bill Clinton's second foray into the rundown hinterland of the White House in less than a week - the first was to the opening of the gleaming new MCI sports stadium - and the proximity of the two outings, each one a rarity for an incumbent president, was widely remarked upon.

Hopes for an upturn in Washington's fortunes have been raised before, of course, only to be dashed. The scale of dereliction in all points east of just another big American city, it would have been given up for lost long ago. Equally, say many who left for the suburbs out of despair, another mayor, another council might have yanked the city up by its bootstraps.

In recent years, the whites blamed the black mayor and his crs because she is white. entourage for bad management (and worse). The blacks blamed flight" beyond the city boundary. They voted "their" mayor right back in, despite a drug conviction earnt while in office - and Doing both is a balancing act.

the whites fled some more. Center, a 20,000-seater stadium and entertainment centre, is one reason why Washingtonians have started tentatively to hope again. A soaring construct of an alien spaceship in the winter dusk, the stadium has been hailed with astonished delight as something little short of a miracle.

There is amazement that

With the appointment of ball and ice-hockey teams, Abe Pollin, should have wanted to build anything in the ruins of central Washington. There is further amazement that the project was approved and built in just two years, amazement all over again that an almost capacity crowd of 20,000 braves the questionable neighbourhood and the public transport system a couple of times a week to attend the games.

want to Europe!

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The beleaguered mayor. Marion Barry, has taken some of the credit. With the pleasantly surprised air of someone used to taking blame, he says: "Abe said he wanted to build an arena. but he wanted me to keep him from being bogged down in red tape. I did that."

President Clinton's decision to attend the opening was as unexpected as Mayor Barry's semi-modesty. Presidents of recent memory have tended to leave the city to its problems. perhaps they did not want to appear to interfere in someone else's - the elected council's business, perhaps because they preferred not to be associated with such evidence of abject failure as Washington's downtown

He recently received a group of local councillors and businessmen. He has offered federal government help to repair rundown schools and train the city's unemployed for government jobs. More to the point, he was not rebuffed. "For 200 years nobody has paid a hill of beans worth of attention to the District [of Columbia]," said one councillor. And here you have the President of the United States . saying: 'tell me what you think the problems are. I want to do something to help you. I think that's significant as hell'."

Not everyone agrees. There is continuing resentment at what many councillors see as the federal "takeover" of the city, the centre is such that if it were after Congress approved the appointment of a federal control board to oversee many city departments this summer in recognition of the city's dire state. Ms Barnett's appointment has also been far from welcomed. Some resent her because she is an outsider; oth-

Most of all, though, the dissenters object to the very idea federal meanness and the "white of a chief executive. Ms Barnett answers to the control board. She has also to cooperate with Mayor Barry and the council.

No one should get carried The opening of the MCI away with the idea that a goahead new Washington, full of peace and barmony, is at hand: restoration projects lag behind schedule, and between the new stadium and the White House stone and glass that beams like there are still streets where groups of idle young men lurk menacingly in the shadows. But the season is for optimism there is already talk of Washington's Olympic prospects for 2012, and if New York and anyone, least of all the million- Chicago can revive themselves, aire owner of the local basket- why not the capital?

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into New York meant it gave up programmes". trying to stand alone and be-

hattan's tax revenues to erase hyn natives would agree. "Man- "An independent Brooklyn the 600-page charter that escity debt. But they did so by the hattan's wealth has been a would have had to develop curse to Brooklyn," Fred the economic assets of its cit-Siegel, an author and history izens," Mr Siegel argued, "But professor at the Cooper Union, instead it had become an obtold the New York Times this ject of pity - an opportunity for week. "It's like a rich gravy that rich Manhattanites to demoncovers the failure of the food strate their generosity by probelow". Brooklyn's absorption viding welfare and social

At a recent gathering at the

Stars urge Indians to come clean over taxes names of their security guards surdly high," he said, "as high were coming clean. Even one or as 80 or 90 per cent. People two multinational companies, which had evaded tax by parment was seen to be pouring tially paying their employees salaries abroad, were owning up to their misdeeds. From a European perspective, the amounts of income tax government and for other peo-

collected in India have been preposterously small. Out of a population of more than 950 million, only 12 million ~ 1.26 per cent - are assessed for tax or file tax returns, and of that number only 12,000 carn more than £15,000 per year. Many of India's most glaring problems its crumbling hospitals and woeful education system, for example - stem from the poverty of its public finances. Even after the end of the VDIS, twothirds of working Indians - the farmers - pay no income tax at all. But it is arguable that this year's amnesty marks a watershed in people's attitude to

coughing up.
Until now, not paying, and not feeling bad about not paying, have been the norm at all levels of society. An engineer earning more than £5,000 a year - a very healthy salary here - explained why. "Until recently, the with 300 per cent fines and jail businesses had been held in the highest rates of tax were ab- sentences for the guilty.

didn't pay because the governmoney down the drain. They would say, why should I pay when no one else bothers? We've been waiting for good we started paying."

Nobody is claiming that the quality of government has improved dramatically. But a newly amended clause in the Income Tax Act requiring residents of 12 major cities who fulfil at least two of four criteria - owning a flat, a car or a telephone, or travelling abroad - to file tax returns. And to encourage compliance, the Income Tax Department has been gathering data on high spenders - through the telephone monopoly, international airports, car finance and leasing companies, the Cellphone Operators' Association - and feeding the data into the department's computers in Mumbai.

They gave defaulters until 31 December to come forward. From today, dramatic enforcement action will commence,

The government seems to have grasped the fact that most people pay taxes because it is too difficult to do otherwise. But they have sugared this disagreeable truth with a coating of social morality. In a series of cannily conceived adverts, written by Ogilvy and Mather and ple to take the initiative before a local company, popular icons spelled out why paying taxes

Classical musician Ustad Amiad Ali Khan said: "We need to start seeing taxes as a kind of donation to a good cause. I tend to see taxes as an offering towards the betterment of society."

The cricketer Kapil Dev offered an even sunnier analysis. "To me, paying taxes is like having a sound technique in cricket," he said. "It helps you grow and stay in the game for a longer time. If you don't pay taxes you are like people who come, make a few quick hundreds, without technique. And then, what happens? You go out tomorrow."

These may be unfamiliar notions to the majority of Indian citizens. But people are finally coming round to the idea that paying tax may be no more than plain common sense.

#### India's tax collectors last night celebrated their most lucrative new year ever, as thousands of defaulting tax payers rushed to take advantage of an income tax amnesty that finished at midnight. Peter Popham assessed the conversion rate in New Delhi More than 75,000 people declared their previously undisclosed income in the past six months, netting the Income Tax Department nearly £900m in tax on £2.9bn of income. The Voluntary Disclosure of Income Scheme (VDIS) was the most ambitious of half a dozen that have been staged, and ran for six months. Until late November, the apathy was overwhelming. Then suddenly, following a series of powerful advertisements featuring famous figures from sport and showbusiness, and alarmist magazine articles about the government's new data col-

turned into a flood.



like sound cricket technique Last week, it was announced that the highest single declarant, in Hyderabad, had owned up to assets of more than £89m. on which he had paid the stipulated 30 per cent tax (the lowest rate ever). People were declaring their fathers' Swiss bank aclecting powers, the trickle counts. Factory owners whose

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> and drugs, the environment and above all, jobs. But since he swept to power eight months ago, promising a new spirit of co-operation and

Twenty-five years to the

day after joining what

was then called the

**European Economic** 

Community, Britain

today takes over the

European Union at a

pivotal moment. Our

term during which

history will be made.

correspondent assesses a

"Europe," Henry Kissinger

once sniffed, "Who do I call, if

I want to talk to Europe?" Be-

tween now and 30 June, the an-

swer to that question will be

Britain - and if it has any

sense, America will be calling

often. For during that period

the EU will take two steps

which are crucial to its future: choosing the countries which

will launch the single currency

in one year's time, and opening

negotiations to bring the former

Communist nations of Eastern

The Whitehall machine has

been gearing up for months for

a presidency whose leitmotif will

be "Europe Working for the

People". Already, on the Eu-

rostar platform at Waterloo

station, the Prime Minister has

unveiled a cloyingly twee logo

of 15 stars (pictured), painted

by children from each of the

member countries. For weeks

now, British officials have been

assiduously briefing on how

this presidency will set bu-

reaucracy aside to focus on is-

sues that matter for ordinary

Europeans - the war on crime

Outwardly, all is in place.

Europe into the Union.

presidency of the

'Who do I call, if I want to talk to Europe?' sniffed Kissinger. Between now and 30 June, the answer to that question will be Britain - and if it has any sense, America will be calling often

> good will to return Britain to a rightful "leading role" in the building of Europe, Tony Blair has learnt that in EU affairs, words are one thing but deeds, not infrequently, another. The "people's Europe" is all very well. However, the jockeying for position in the run up to the single currency and the feuding between Greece and Turkey which sours the enlargement process, are perhaps better indicators of the realities.

From next Thursday, when the Brussels Commission pays its traditional visit to the incoming presidency country, Britain's six months in charge will be studded with weighty gatherings. Robin Cook will travel to Washington as Europe's official standard-

### CORNWELL

bearer. In all, in the first half of 1998. British ministers and senior officials will chair more than 200

But the one that matters most, when the finance ministers decide in early May which currencies are to be locked into the euro from 1 January 1999, takes place not in London but Brussels. And having ruled itself out of first-wave membership, Britain the president will be a mere bystander, albeit a most interested one - so interested indeed that December's summit in Luxembourg nearly came to grief over Britain's insistence that it be given formal observer status at Euro-X, the informal club of countries participating in the euro.

In the end, a compromise was reached which saved Mr Blair's face but in practice endorsed the division between the 11 likely euro "ins" and the "outs" (Denmark, Sweden and Greece as well as Britain). And on that day Labour's European honeymoon ended. EU leaders have recovered from the delight of discovering that after 18 years, the Conservatives were finally out of office. In Luxembourg, Mr Blair seemed a man who wanted to join the club without paying the membership fees, gushing with sanctimony and self-righteousness as he did so.

But the opportunity remains. Attitudes in Britain are changing and hostility to the single currency is slowly ebbing. If the Government is sincere in its promise to join the euro "as soon as the time is right, then the next six months provide Mr lair a splendid bully pulpit from which to sell the project to a public long brainwashed by Tory Euro-scepticism. But if the single currency

steals the limelight enlargement may prove a far trickier longer-term problem. Britain's immediate task is to launch formal negotiations with six countries - Poland, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Estonia and Slovenia from Eastern Europe, and Cyprus. The sting in that rollcall lies of course in the tail. So incensed is Turkey that divided Cyprus is on the A list while its own application has again been denied, that it threatens to boycott March's "European Conference" in London, devised by Britain as a permanent link between the 15 current EU members, the 11 applicants and the eternally spurned Turks. Keeping the Turks both happy and out, is a task which will strain even the Foreign Office's diplomatic

### BRITAIN'S CONTINENTAL DRIFT

1963: The first "Non" of President De Gaulle ( pictured) to British membership of the then European Economic Community:--1967: The second De Gaulle veto. 1970: Under the new Conservative government of Edward Heath, formal negotiations start for British accession 1973: After President

Pompidou lifes the French veto, Britain finally joins the EEC. 1974/75: Harold Wilson conducts his promised "renegotiation" of the terms of

British entry. 1975: Referendum on "renegotiation" produces a two-thirds majority in favour of continuing British EEC membership. 1979: Margaret Thatcher becomes Prime Minister, vowing to reduce Britain's large net contribution to the Community budget 1984: Maggie gets her money back, when the Fontainebleau summit adopts a

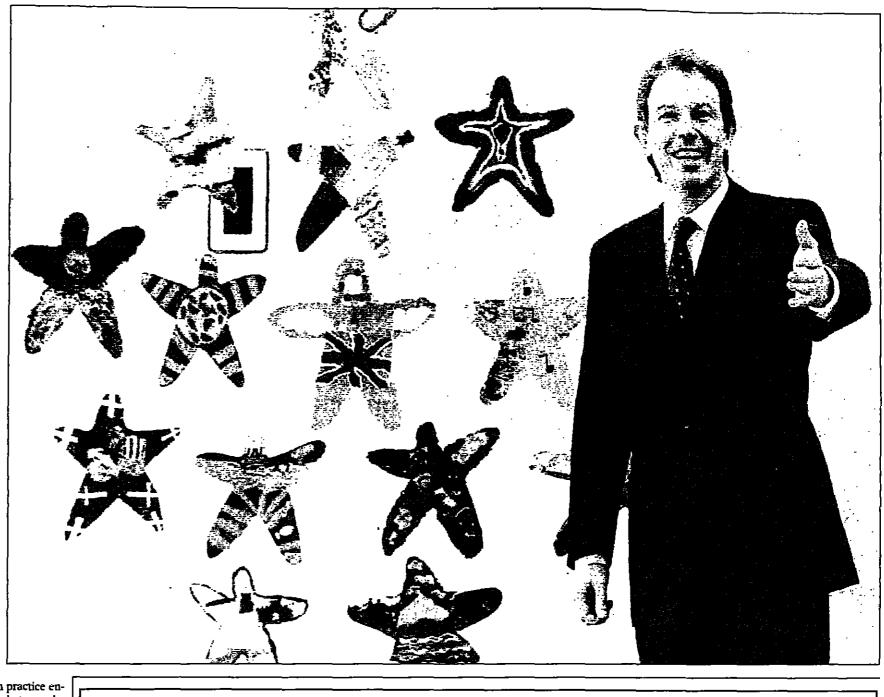
formula for a British rebate. 1986: Britain signs the Single European Act, spelling out more clearly than ever the "European Idea", and permitting some majority voting in the Council of



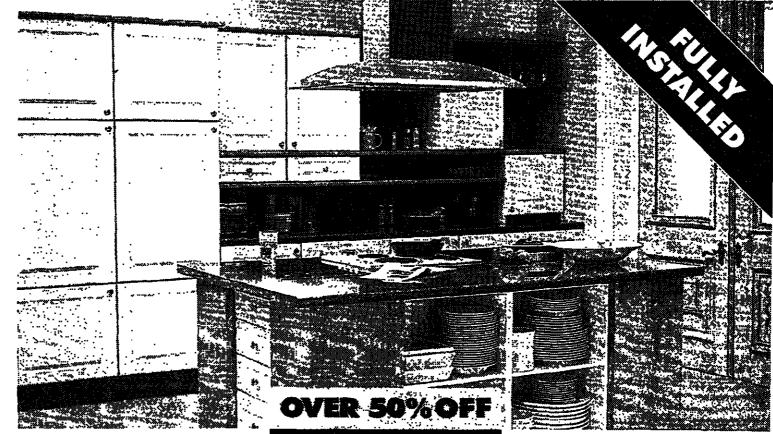
1990 (October): With the grudging consent of Mrs Thatcher, Britain belatedly joins the Exchange Rate Mechanism (ERM). 1990 (November): Mrs Thatcher is forced from power by a Cabinet revolt detonated by her European policies. 1992 (February): Britain signs Maastricht Treaty on European Union, having secured various conces-

sions including an "opt out" on the Social Chapter. An acknowledged diplomatic trlumph for John Major. 1992 (September): Sterling is humiliatingly forced out of the ERM on Black Wednesday, 16 September. 1993: Parliament ratifies Maastricht

1997 (May): The new Labour Government agrees to sign up to the Social Chapter. 1997 (October): UK and other I4 EU members sign the Amsterdam Treaty, successor to Maastricht and billed as a blueprint for political union. In fact, it fudges the vital issue of EU institutional reform. 1997 (October): Gordon Brown announces Britain will not join the single currency at its launch, and almost certainly not until after 2002.







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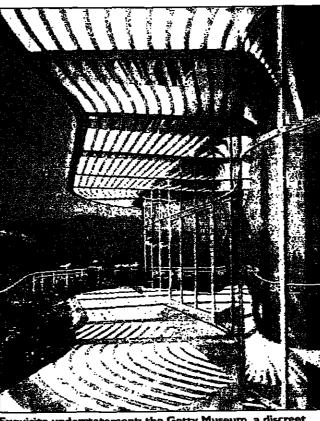
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## Beauty spots and carbuncles: the best and worst of 1997



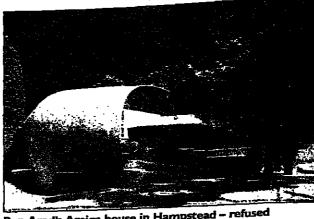
Top of the pops: Frank Gehry's Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao, 'a genuinely postmodernist masterpiece'



hill town overlooking Los Angeles



Sandy Wilson's new British Library: a long time coming but 'it's actually rather good'



Ron Arad's Amiga house in Hampstead – refused planning permission by Harringey Council



misuse of craftsmanship as pastiche'



The Millennium Dome in Greenwich: finally got the goahead - without the PVC fabric covering

The new Tate Gallery Bankside or the Getty Museum in LA? What's your favourite new design project? Nonie Niesewand asked leading British practitioners to award their brickbats and

Sir Terence Conran

Frank Gehry's new Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao can't fail to win gasps of awe and admiration, as we always knew it would; manship as pastiche. in contrast, the new British Library has been so long coming that, I think, we were all Fred Manson, director of regeneration & rather taken aback to discover that after environment, Southwark Council all this time it's actually rather good. I was heartened that the Millennium Dome was finally given the go-ahead, and it's good to see the Independent on Sunday keeping up the pressure with its "Dome Watch" column - we still can't take its execution for granted. And what a way to furniture designer Tom Dixon to Habitat - it will be fascinating to see where he takes the company.

On a personal level I was thrilled by the reviews that we got at CD Partnership from the architectural press for Bluebird on the King's Road, and think that our Conran Shop and Orrery restaurant on Marylebone High Street are equally exciting.

As for lows, I'm depressed and appalled by the cynical design of speculative housing in this country, cladding steel structures in reconstituted stone to look like Edwardian city banks - pretentious and pompous.

Lucy Musgrave, director of the Architecture

Applause for the British Museum's resolve in upholding a 230-year record of free admission, along with the Tate and other national institutions' commitment to maintain free entry.

terrible lack of courage with regard to the consciousness. awarding £27m to the scheme minus the winning Zaha Hadid design which was ditched last year.

Greenpeace UK The worst decision of 1997 was the Goverament's to cover the Millennium Dome decided to drop the PVC.

Jan Kaplicky, orchitect at Future Systems The best of '97 was seeing the B2 bomber flying over and landing. Beauty and func-My list of highs begins with the obvious: tion at its best. The worst was the Windsor Castle conversion and restoration. Hideous, kitsch and a misuse of crafts-

I have thought about my architectural high point of the year and it is Tony Blair. Who else in 1997 invented a new building type - a People's Parliament? Examples will be built or created in Scotland, Wales and even London. The challenge he has set designers is to build a place that will demonend the year, with the appointment of the strate an egalitarian, inclusive approach to government. The further challenge for designers and artists is to find ways of reflecting local and regional identities without being trite.

My worst fear would be Tony Blair in a kilt for Scotland.

Lord Rothschild, chairman of the Millennium Hentage Lottery Fund

Great stories such as the opening up of Somerser House only happen once in a lifetime. The combination of the existing Courtauld paintings; the arrival of the new Gilbert Collection in the South Block; the opening up of the river terrace which boasts some of the finest views of the Thames in London; and the plans to clear the courtyard to create a buge open-air venue for concerts and the possible broadcast of arts events on a giant screen will help to open up one of London's finest public buildings. With these new dimensions this largely forgotten building will now be returned to the cen-The Millennium Commission showed a tral place it once held in the nation's

Cardiff Bay Opera House, exacerbated by As chairman of the Heritage Lottery Fund Lord Rothschild has declined to nominate For now: Frank Gehry's Bilbao Guggenheim, the worst until he relinquishes his post on April

Lord Peter Melchett, executive director. Eva Jiricna, architect at one of only two architectural practices invited to design the exhibition content in the Millennium Expenence

in Greenwich with a PVC fabric. The best I was pleased that they decided not to decision came a few months later when they charge for entrance to the British Museum which will have a knock-on effect on galleries and museums nationwide. It's cr

cal to keep the doors open. The worst decision was Harringey Council's to refuse planning permission for the building of Ron Arad's Amiga house in Hampstead - a shame, too, that the anticampaign had been championed by another architect, John Siefert.

Lord Gowrie, chairman of the Arts Council My equal favourite buildings this year are the Richard Attenborough Centre for Disability and the Arts in Leicester by Bennetts Associates (and I declare an interest as it was supported by the National Lottery through the Arts Council of England) and the exciting turn of the tide in favour of Sandy Wilson's new British Library. The disasters along the way should not in my view be laid at the door of the architect.

The unquestioned worst is the refacing of Richard Seifert's Royal Garden Hotel in

Richard Calvocoressi, keeper. Scottish National Gallery of Modern Art

Three cheers for the award by the Heritage Lottery Fund of over £400m since 1995. totalling an astonishing £218m to museums and galleries up and down the country large and small, national, regional and local - enabling them to realise longcherished capital projects and to acquire objects for their collections which enhance our cultural life.

I am apprehensive about the successful application by Glasgow City Council to relax conditions on lending works in Sir William Burrell's bequest - a principle has been overturned which will send worrying signals to potential benefactors of our museums and galleries.

Michael Craig-Martin, artist and trustee of the Tate Gallery

one of the great buildings of the late 20th century. Extraordinary that the Guggen-

Year of the River Thames: the Foster/Caro Millennium Bridge got the green light

heim Foundation has commissioned two architectural masterpieces in which to show its art collection and exhibitions (the other is the Frank Lloyd Wright building in New York), both of which are problematic for showing art. For the future: Herzog and DeMouron's Tate Gallery Bankside. Planning is more or less complete and building work has commenced on this immense project to house the Tate's modern international collection. The first great building of the 21st century, designed from the outset to create the best and most varied circumstances for showing art, opening in March 2000.

The worst: the Victorian Fairies show at the Royal Academy.

Professor Will Alsop, architect

For me the Guggenheim Museum by Genry in Bilbao must rate among the best of the vear. I have not heard one had comment on it and it will surely be one of the great attractions and points of interest to an otherwise rather lacklustre city. It is interesting to speculate how the new Tate at Bankside will perform as an architectural piece when it is complete. I tend to think it will not, and that yet again London has missed a major opportunity due to Management-Driven Millennium Mediocrity.

Come on London - do it. It - that is, architecture as completed by a master - will not kill people.

The worst (among the many terrible) must be the next phase of the development at Hammersmith Broadway which is dull, badly designed and offers nothing to that part of west London. It is still no easier to use as a pedestrian than it has been ever since the Hammersmith flyover was first constructed. I fail to understand why the Royal Fine Arts Commission and English Heritage, which spend hours making life difficult for good modern architects and visionary clients, seem to turn a blind eye and maintain silence on such rubbish.

Professor Christopher Frayling rector, Royal College of Art

Frank Gehry's glass and titanium Guggenhelm Museum in Bilbao - a genuinely postmodernist masterpiece, with scarcely a straight line in sight and a thrilling relationship with the city and its river. In the UK, the beginnings of a series of ambitious and visionary projects made possible by the National Lottery - of which the Tare Bankside and the Bakic Flour Mills are the grandest - and which will, over the next few years, transform the landscape of contemporary visual art and open it up to new publics.

The worst was the tabloid reaction to the Sensation exhibition at the Royal Academy and the Channel 4 studio discussion "Is Painting Dead?" which followed this year's Turner Prize: the former reduced public debate about art to a series of one-word answers, while the latter made me despair about the parlous state of contemporary art criticism. Our young artists - and especially our painters - deserve much better.

lain Tuckett, director, Coin Street Communitv Builders

It was the year when the River Thames at last received the attention it deserves. Lifschutz Davidson's Hungerford Bridge walkways and the Foster/Caro Millennium Bridge both got the go-ahead, and John Prescott announced his determination to create a proper riverbus service. But the most magical moment for me was at sunset on 14 September when Jade Kindar-Martin and Didier Pasquette, both in their twenties, crossed the Thames on a one-inch wide steel wire strung 150ft above the river. Watched by tens of thousands of people on the embankments. bridges and foreshore, the two artists for a moment transformed the geography of the city and showed the possibilities of an annual Thames Festival for which this was the launch event. All credit to organiser, Adrian Evans, and his team of engineers, canoeists and production staff who managed to persuade all those agencies and authorities we pay to keep the city working "normally" to disrupt the traffic, just briefly, to allow this magical event to be shared by so many.

Michael Wilford, winner of the Stirling Prize for Architecture and architect for the Lowry Centre in Salford for the Millennium

First, and most interesting for architects involved in designing new museums, was the recent opening of the Frank Gehry Guggenheim Museum in Bilbao and the opening of the Getty Museum in Los Angeles in December. They represent opposite polarities in terms of current museum design. The Guggenheim in a kind of residual location on the edge of the city expressing grand display in terms of its exterior form which people might consider as being bigger than the art it contains. Fantastic, massive, sculptural contrasts with the Getty discreet hill town overlooking Los Angeles. This used mostly traditional forms and materials and inside the gallery is almost corporate in its manner. The other interesting comparison between the two is that one would expect the hill town to have a hierarchy and structure but all the buildings are given equal weight whereas the almost hizarre, overthe-top Guggenheim does have a hierarchy. Art galleries will never be the same after Bilbao. It is a significant milestone it museum design.

The bad news for architects involved in new public cultural buildings is it is obvious that the Lottery funding available for major new art projects has now been spent and that future projects are likely to be smaller and more diverse in scale.

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### Nothing a spot of training couldn't cure

RESOLUTIONS

THE TIME 8 JULY 1992

THE PLACE: THREE LOCATIONS IN NORTH LONDON

Young, gifted and on the way to top of the TV tree, David Aaronovitch stumbled, and found himself in the foothills of the BBC

scrapheap. Would a management course set him back on the right

Like an arrow shot from the bow of a god, I had - for 15 years - ascended into the heavens of successful, professional manhood. Without really thinking about it I had been president of the National Union of Students, a researcher, then - in doublequick time - a producer on the cerebral TV current affairs show Weekend World, and finally, in the line of ascent, at 33, the founding editor of a new politics programme for the BBC. It was clear to me - as it seemed to be clear to the world - that I possessed unusual talents. Who knew how golden the future might not be?

And then, before reaching the stratosphere, my little stick faltered, lost momentum and began slowly to sink to earth. I'll spare you the institutional details. A mistake here, a bit of bad luck there, and approaching my 38th birthday I was to be found in a broom cupboard in the BBC's Westminster HQ at Millbank doing a job that no one really wanted done. Despite this, I couldn't get out of it. Worse, my immediate boss didn't like me, and had convinced himself of my uselessness. Word had

So, there I sat, wreathed in the fug of 18 fags a day, alternately playing Nobunaga's Ambition on the office PC, and dealing with the endless bickering about rotas and foreign trips that diverted the BBC's troop of political correspondents from the simple truth that too many of them had too little to do. I was, for the first time in my life, depressed - and this depression was deepening. From unbearably arrogant I had swung dangerously towards embittered, and embitterment is usually a terminal

Naturally, I was horrible at home. Partners and babies are less superficial adjuncts of the real business of a man's life than they once were. The black dog snarled and yapped at those who succoured it. You only really appreciate the scale of a personal crisis like this when it has passed. Nevertheless I understood that something radical had to be done. I needed to regain control of my destiny somehow.

Redemption. Scene 1. A nicotine-stained and fag-ash-strewn study somewhere in Kentish Town. A pathetic-looking man enters, slouching. He opens a drawer in a desk and takes something out. Then, setting his weak jaw in a parody of determination, he grits his yellow teeth, and tears the object - which we now see to be a packet of Silk Cut Extra Longs - in two. It is not the first time that he has done this. night, this is what I said:

the poor weak sap, but it turns out to be the last.

Redemption. Scene 2.1 am now to be found in the office of the deputy director general of the BBC, an extraordinary, wedge-shaped Art Nouveau place, set in one half of the second floor of the prow of Broadcasting House. I have asked for this meeting to seek the DDG's advice on what I should do next, and he has agreed to meet me.

For a man under constant criticism, he is relaxed, his smile occupying much of the wide face under those big glasses. Thatcher has gone, and he has probably saved the BBC, and what can he do for me? Now, I know that I must not moan, sound negative or attack my superiors in the organisation. If I do, he'll just think that I'm yet another desperate misfit (which, of course, is exactly what I am) and I'll be doomed to 20 years of sisyphean futility. So I talk about having been in the one job too long, and feeling that my talents might be better deployed ... and, absurdly, feel tears of frustration gather behind my eyes.

If he notices the wobble in my voice, the DDG does not acknowledge it. After having heard me out courteously, he gently prescribes his own patent medicine - a management training course. In his view, there is nothing wrong with most people that a good management training course cannot solve. He's been on several himself, and there are lots of different ones specially adapted for almost every situation. Why don't I call the nice people at management training, and fix myself up? At the very least it may help to clarify my goals. And - he doesn't say - if anyone ever needed their goals clarifying, it's me.

Redemption. Scene 3. The Ivy restaurant. This is where Alan Yentob ate back then, and may still do today. And my longsuffering partner had decided that the Ivy was the place where we would celebrate my birthday. At Spm we turned up between its posh portals and presented ourselves at the desk.

"What name, madam?" asked a suave. slim, dark young man with - I thought - a supercilious set to his thin mouth. "Powell." The young man screwed up his eyes and searched the short list in front of him. "I am afraid we do not have a Powell," he announced, "But," my partner protested, "you called me earlier today to confirm our reservation!" Suave searched once more. "Ah," he said triumphantly, "but you then cancelled it. You see? We have you down as having phoned in to cancel." Bewildered. my partner tried again. "Look, I didn't call. Why should I? Could you look again?"

Heaving a big sigh, Snave returned to see the problem. Some people called Power had a reservation which they cancelled, and your name was crossed off instead. Unfortunately all our tables inside are now taken, but I can offer you a table out here." He pointed at a couple of forlorn, unlaid tables near the entrance. "It's the best we can do."

Up till this moment I had never argued with anyone in a restaurant. I had never sent anything back, or queried a bill, or refused to pay service even for the most tardy and incompetent waitering. But, that



"Last week my partner made a reservation at this restaurant, and this afternoon it was confirmed. We have arrived here to discover that you have - in error - cancelled our table. At first you tried to suggest that it was she who had made a preposterous mistake. Only when she insisted, did you been at fault. But even then you did not apologise. Far from it. Instead you offer us a windswept exile in the Siberia of your entrance hall, and you do it as though we should be grateful. But we are not grateful. I very much doubt whether you would treat Alan Yentob in this way. Good night." We swept out. And I hadn't felt so good for years. The lvv's loss became the

Spagheni House's gain. Aftermath. I haven't tasted a cigarette for five-and-a-half years, and my lungs feel as if they have functioning alveoli again. I

but - should its owners read this - I am prepared to forgive over a free meal and a complimentary bottle of champagne. There will be five of us at table. It's the least I can do for Sarah and the children.

November, It was entitled "The Effective days at a country house in Surrey. Four of us, from different organisations, made up a little group in which we discussed our past careers, our high points and low troughs, and talked about our strategies for the future - all interspersed by peculiar topological diagrams on overhead projectors.

As was the plan, this group met again four times in the next year to evaluate its progress, and to offer advice and support to each of its members. There was decent Angus, a former wing commander, now bursar of an Oxbridge college; Jim. a have never returned to the by Restaurant. mercurial, brilliant and irritating engineer

from British Rail, and Doug, production manager at a Midlands factory making plastic packaging.

At our second meeting one thing became terribly clear to me. We were all fail-And I went on the training course that ures, Angus was - though he didn't know it - loathed by the old-boy City interests who dominated the college financially. Jim was a hopeless manager. Doug, you just knew, would be sacked within the year. He was too conservative to adapt to developments in packaging.

But it was stolid Doug who suggested that I was trying to climb the wrong greasy pole, "You like talking and performing, you do," he told me. "Perhaps you should try that for a living instead." So I did.

Tomorrow: writer Dea Birkett comes to terms with one of life's

### I WISH THEY WOULD ...

Debbie Barham suggests how the great and the good could make themselves even greater and better in 1998.

I will lose some of those excess pounds - Geoffrey Robinson I will not leave the table before everyone else has finished - Gerry Adams I will keep a diary every day - Alan Clark

I will wear the same shirt for more than one week running

- Manchester United players I will stop making such a song and dance out of trivial things - Lord Lloyd-Webber

I will stop parking in disabled parking spaces - Harriet Harman I will stop being horrible to the cat

- Cherie Booth I will stop picking my nose (from mailorder catalogues)

- Michael Jackson I will take up a sport of some kind

- Tottenham Hotspur football

I will finally get around to putting those shelves up - head builder, British Library

restoration project I will try to get out more

- anonymous INLA member, speaking from top security jail I will try to get out less

 Mike Atherton I will be more decisive. Perhaps

- Paddy Ashdown I will learn to drive - Damon Hill I will spend more time away from the

TV - Richard and Judy I will stop finishing other people's

sentences - Judge Hiller Zobel

I will buy at least one mind-expanding book - David Blunkett's commitment to 1998 education funding I will behave more like an individual

- memo: from Peter Mandelson, to: all Whitehall personnel, re: New Year's Resolutions (urgent) I will stop treating people with sarcasm

- yeah RIGHT - Jeremy Paxman I will start acting my age

- Joan Collins, accepting a part in 'Return of the Living Dead' I will give more time to the kids Jack Straw, on sentencing plans for young offenders

If I win the lottery I will not let it change my lifestyle

Richard Branson

I will give more money to good causes - Chris Smith, Heritage Secretary

I will completely cut out red meat Jack Cunningham

I will try to make my demands clear - the Inland Revenue

I will stop talking on the job

- Chris Evans I will have a good spring-clean

 ethnic-cleansing groups in Afghanistan I will stop interfering with other

people's business - Bill Gates

I will not shout at people - The Rev Ian Paisley

I will conquer my fear of appearing in public - Channel Five

### DILEMMAS

### I gave up smoking. Now it's my husband's turn



### VIRGINIA Ironside

Penny gave up smoking nine months ago. Her husband, also a smoker, has cut down to five a day in the flat, out of consideration for her, but she and the children dislike the smell of smoke and argue that it's a health problem as well as a human one. They have no garden or balcony. What should Penny do?

I'm afraid that for Penny, as Elvis used to say, if she's looking for trouble, she's come to the right place. I'm a fanatical anti-antismoker, and feel that her demands are quite preposterous, particularly in view of the fact that her poor husband is already smoking barely any cigarettes at all.

Like all born-again non-smokers, Penny wants to control the world and bring everyone round to her views. It happens with born-again Christians, who are frightful bores, and it happens in the world of cigarettes, too. "Oh, the smell!" say the antismoking brigade, holding their noses, without realising that there are numerous anti-odour sprays around that would fix that immediately. Indeed, even a lighted candle will burn up any few fumes that there are. in the same way as lighting a match in the loo burns up unwanted pongs. Or, "Oh, but passive smoking kills!" they cry, without looking at the evidence properly and finding that, if it's examined properly, it's shot full of holes. What anti-smoking is all about is control, and the smoker knows this and,

rightly, gets angry. After all, if someone comes to your house and pollutes it with his incredibly boring stories or stupid jokes, you don't say he can come again only on condition that he keeps his trap shut; and if someone comes wearing a cheap, sickly scent, you don't ask them to come again minus their perfume. If a disabled person were to come round to Penny's house and dribble throughout the meal, surely Penny would never say that he can only return if he stops dribbling? If someone is drunkenly argumentative, you either don't ask them again, or you have

them, warts and all. my habits. Smoking is, after all, part of closed.

someone's personality, and the fact that it is a part of their personality that Penny finds offensive is no reason to ask them to stop

In Trollope's The Way We Live Now, the smoking Felix puts his finger on it when he says to his mother: "Some women swear they like smoke, others say they hate it like the devil. It depends altogether on whether they wish to flatter or soub a fellow."

Penny is in the snubbing business, and no wonder her husband resists her moves to stop him smoking. After all, she was a smoker once, and she is hardly in a position to condemn him for his pleasures now.

Even John Morgan, a non-smoker, in his Debrett's New Guide to Etiquette and Manners, deplores the idea of preventing people smoking at parties, on the grounds that parties are a kind of stew that needs all kinds of different ingredients. Leave one out, and the recipe doesn't necessarily work.

I suspect there is some kind of hidden agenda working here; either Penny is turning into a control freak, or there is something else about her husband that she is starting to dislike and she is pinning her hatred of this on to his smoking. If he gives it up completely she will turn her eve to something else - the hairs in his nose, the way he coughs during television programmes, his mild snoring. His smoking habits are the tip of a much larger iceberg - and intuitively he knows it.

Penny should remember who introduced anti-smoking (and, incidentally, vegetarianism) to our society. None other than our old friend Herr Hitler. I rest my case. She should give her husband a break and let him carry on being himself. Let him Love me, love my dog. Love me, love smoke 20 a day, I say. With the windows

### WHAT READERS SAY

He needs your help Penny's husband must be aware of what a nuisance it is to have to smoke, and how much simpler and more enjoyable his life would be if he could stop.

However, like most smokers, perhaps he believes that smoking really does something for him. and that in any ease, he would find it impossible to give up - despite his wife's example.

Both these beliefs are in fact myths that smokers use to hide their unwillingness to tackle the addiction. Penny's husband should try

reading Allen Carr's book. The Easy Way to Stop Smoking, and, if that alone fails to do the trick. attend an Easy Way session. There are clinics in most parts of the UK.

Jim Trimmer, Richmond, Surrey

Remind your husband that you gave up smoking for health reasons. Passive smoking increases your risk of heart disease and lung cancer by 25 per cent.

Define a bottom line (ie no smoking inside the house) and stick to it. Love may be blind but it ain t stupid! (Dr) Sieve Maric

Sheffield, South Yorkshire Think of the children

This is a difficult poser which highlights personal rights alongside consideration for others. It also emphasises what can happen in a relationship if one person changes to a behaviour incompatible with the behaviour of

It is difficult to stop a smoker from smoking. Penny would like

their partner.

Try the medical approach to enforce a complete ban on smoking in the house - justifiable on health and human grounds but her husband has rights too. It is also his house, and he has a right to smoke there.

> well to cut down to fewer than five cigarettes a day. That is a considerable achievement. However, there are also three children who dislike the smoke. Their needs are important, too. It might be better if Penny's husband smoked in a well-ventilated area, or in one particular room. It is possible to give up smoking, but he will do

Penny's husband has done

Nicholas E Gough, Swindon Learn to live with it

so only if he truly wants to.

If I were Penny's husband, I would enlighten her to the fact that, although she may have

her physical health by giving up smoking, she should also have realised that she is at risk of damaging her emotional well-being with her lack of compromise and compassion towards him.

admirably curtailed some risks to

Penny's husband should not be made to suffer for a pleasure she now dislikes, but once enjoyed. Short of suggesting a spell of

marriage guidance counselling to get to the bottom of her dilemma, this lady should accept that her spouse has reduced his cigarette intake at home, and not yet produced divorce papers - and be rather more gracious about it. It takes a lot of guts to become an ex-smoker; it takes even more to stifle the impulse to make it one's responsibility to foist one's fresh-breathed views on others. Lola E Hatmil, Slough

### NEXT WEEK'S DILEMMA

This may sound neurotic, but I and as the days grow longer I sensitive? I am getting obsessed Features Department, 'The Indepbecause a neighbour a few doors down plays her radio loudly in the garden most afternoons. With this mild winter she has started playing it already, while

am already dreading the summer know the sound will get louder about this. and for longer periods, too. She is a very aggressive person, so I daren't ask her to turn it down, and am thinking of moving. But then the same would probably she is sweeping up the leaves: happen wherever I am. Am I too Send comments to me at the share, please let me know,

Letters are welcome, and everyone who has a suggestion quoted will be sent a bouquet from Interflora. endent', 1 Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL (fax: 0171-293 2182), by Tuesday

And if you have a dilemma of your own that you would like to

Dorothy Nancy Stroud, museum curator and author: born London II January 1910; staff, Country Life 1930-41; staff, National Monuments Record 1941-45; Assistant Curator, Sir John Soane's Museum 1945-84; MBE 1968; died London 27 December

me as two people, as the aptly titled Inspectress of Sir John Soane's Museum, in Lincoln's Inn Fields, where for almost 40 years she intimidated students of all ages, and the genial partridge-like figure whose life centred on Onslow Square and who enjoyed giving dinner to her friends and making fruitful introductions between them.

Onslow Square, with its cultivated respectability, was of great importance to her, not least because it disguised the hid from all who knew her. In- then a few articles; and she en-

deed I always thought of her as a gallant person who deserved an easier path. Occasionally she would talk about her late teens when she was at Edgbaston High School, because certain mid-Staffordshire people whom she had known then meant something to me, but she never mentioned her father or who was just starting to write referred to any difficulties in her early life, although it seems that Dorothy Stroud always struck she always had to support her mother.

There seems to have been no question of university, and at the age of 20 she started work at Country Life in the Book Department. From there she moved to the Editorial Office to work as Christopher Hussey's secretary, and in a sense that opened the door for her, or rather she made it open for herself. She told Margaret Richardson, her successor as Inspectress, that it was there that she started to write. first doing struggle of her life, which she occasional book reviews and

joyed the life of the office, her vivid memories of its absurdities and its characters still mak-

ing her chuckle 50 years later. Shortly before the Second World War she began to collect material for a life of Capability Brown, a project in which she was encouraged by Hussey. about 18th-century landscape at that time, his novel articles on Stourhead appearing in 1938.

In 1941 she left Country Life to work with John Summerson in the newly established National Monuments Record, where she was supposed to look after Outer London and take record photographs on her brownie box camera, but they were limited by the short supply and cost of film.

At the end of the war Summerson was appointed Director of Sir John Soane's Museum and he took Stroud as his inspectress, the post and title laid down in the original foundation. It was no sinecure reopening the museum, which meant unpacking and setting out again in their old places the diverse collections that had been taken away for safety. And for the next 39 years Dorothy Stroud saw her responsibilities as being those of an academic housekeeper rather than a curator compiling catalogues.

She ran the place on a dayto-day basis, typed all the letters on her own typewriter (typically the museum never owned one throughout her time there). preserved JS, as she always referred to him, from those she considered timewasters, and always made the tea in the afternoon for them both and for whoever else she thought worthy of coming into his presence and drinking out of one of Mrs Soane's teacups; she also made the curtains in the museum and scrubbed the sarcophagus; and at holidays times always went in

It was through her dedica-

and Sir John Summerson, as he now was, finally retired (at the ages of 74 and 79) in 1984. Together they had kept it as the most atmospheric museum in London, where one would not have been surprised to encounter the other Sir John rearranging the busts, and where their only assistant, appointed in 1971, was never allowed a Christian name, always being called Miss Scull, and never permitted to have coffee sitting with them, but made to drink it standing in the outer room. Summerson, it must be admitted, did take Dorothy Stroud for granted, but it was her competence that gave him much of the free-

dom to get on with his writing. If Miss Stroud was fierce with students, she was strict with herself, and all her own work was done away from the museum, her research on her days off to feed the beloved museum cat. and her writing mostly in the evenings tucked up in bed.

going on a shoestring until she - came her period, first through writing Capability Brown. That pre-war and still pioneer project was finally published by Counin Life in 1950, then reprinted in 1957 and then rewritten for the Faber edition of 1975 in the light of the enormous amount of new material that had come to light in archives and on the ground.

In 1961 she wrote the first post-war book on Soane, The Architecture of Sir John Soane. hased on a catalogue raisonne of his work compiled for the museum between 1947 and 1957; in 1984 she rewrote it for Sir John Soane, Architect (revised by the museum in 1996). In 1962 she published Humphry Repton. 1966 Henry Holland and in 1971 George Dance.

By the time she retired, she did not have the energy to write any more, and also, partly through what she had written on Brown and Repton, Garden History had earned capital letters and her successors in the

Stroud: less curator than academic housekeeper

batteries of footnotes. However, thanks to the generosity of friends, she was able to do what she wanted most of all, to remain in Onslow Square

it through PhDs supported by in, and by the end it seems that she had forgotten that she had written any books. But we will continue to need them - and hopefully she will remain a legend in Lincoln's Inn Fields.

### **Danilo Dolci**

Danilo Dolci, educationalist, campaigner, writer and poet: born Sesana, Italy 28 June 1924; twice married (two children, five adopted children); died Partinico. Sicily 30 December 1997.

If we know anything about the dark, secretive world of the Sicilian Mafia in the first turbulent years after the Second World War, it is largely thanks to Danilo Dolci. This was a time when the island was in the grip of a vicious Cold War struggle man father, who decided in between the interests of disenfranchised agricultural workers, and those of the landowners and the racketeers, who for reasons of political expediency - building a bulwark against the Communists and trade unions the Church and the Christian Democrat party.

During these years the word "Mafia" never passed the lips of ordinary Sicilians, for reasons of cultural pride as well as fear, and was profoundly misunderstood

Dolci's great merit was to live the Sicilian experience at grass-roots level, to conduct painstaking investigations into



Dolci: answered to nobody

living conditions, how power was devolved, and the creeping grip of criminality, and to communicate these things through the considerable power of his writing and poetic sensibility. Along with his contemporary the novelist Leonardo Sciascia, he was instrumental in getting Sicilians to face up to the peculiarities of their own culture and society and inspiring them

to fight for change. In the 1950s and 1960s, Dolci published a series of books (notably, in their English translations. To Feed the Hungry, 1955, and Waste, 1960) that stunned the outside world with their emotional force and the detail with which he depicted the desperate conditions of the Sicilian countryside. He launched campaign after campaign, modelled closely on Gandhi's examples of non-violence and civil disobedience, to secure such basic human rights as access to

clean water and sewage. Dolci became convinced that the key to progress was through education, and set up his own study centre in Partinico, the village in the Palermo hinterland that became his home. His pedagogical methods, with their emphasis on social awareness and cultural interaction, won him a worldwide reputation, and a small but ardent following at home that took his ideas, over the

years, across Sicily and into mainland Italy.

In many ways, Dolci was ideally placed to take up this ground-breaking, almost missionary, role. He had Sicily in his blood from his father, but was born at the other end of the country, near Trieste, to a Slovenian mother. He thus possessed both insight into and distance from Sicilian culture. After taking a degree in architecture from Milan University, he travelled south almost by chance - following his railwaymid-career to move back home.

In Sicily Dolci was protected to some degree by his international reputation, but nevertheless suffered humiliation after humiliation - less at the hands of Cosa Nostra than found themselves co-opted by at the hands of the state authorities. Ernesto Ruffino, the Archbishop of Palermo who notoriously denied the existence of the Mafia as late as the mid-1960s, dismissed Dolci and his followers as besmirchers of Sicily's good name. In 1967, a by the Italian intelligentsia. In triumvirate of powerful Chrisan era when most Sicilians were tian Democrat leaders reacted illiterate and spoke nothing violently to his denuncations of but dialect, language itself their links to organised crime became a barrier that the and succeeded in having him

The following year, an earthquake devastated the Belice valley near Partinico and Dolci was under fire again, this time for embezzling overseas funds sent to help the victims. At the same time, some of his followers accused him of excessive authoritarianism and left to set up their own educational centres.

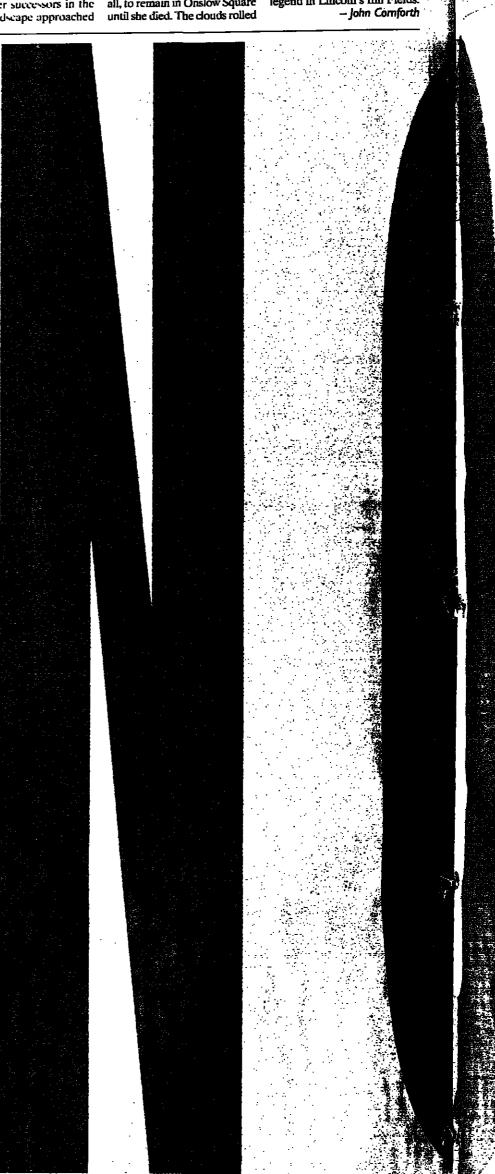
In an atmosphere as poisoned as Sicily's, it is hard to fathom the truth of such allegations; whether to conclude that he did indeed think a little too much of himself, or that he was the victim of jealousies big and small that conspired to undo him. The smears certainly succeeded in pushing Dolci out of the limelight in his own country - for the last 20 years of his life he disappeared from public view. But he continued to be revered abroad, winning prizes for his poetry, and working as a guest lecturer at universities in the United States

If anything, Dolci was a victim of his excessive honesty, not his lack of it. He refused to answer to anybody and never joined a political party despite several invitations from the Italian Communist Party to run for office. Much of his life was lived through symbolic acts: his first wife, Vincenzina Mangano, was the widow of a trade unionist whom he rescued from penury and whose five children he adopted as his own. In the 1970s he rebelled against the state monopoly on broadcasting and set up his own radio station in Partinico in the face of stiff resistance from the police.

His death has triggered a curious mixture of reactions. While the chief anti-Mafia prosecutor in Palermo, Giancarlo Caselli, said Dolci was one of the people who gave him the keys to do his job, the national press gave him surprisingly short shrift, describing him as a historical curiosity whose work has long since been forgotten. Danilo Dolci, it seems, is no less troubling a figure now than he was in those dark, illiterate days of the 1950s.

Andrew Gumbel

field of landscape approached The years from 1750 to 1820 betion that the museum was kept



SMOKINKILLS

Chief Medical Con Warn

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## 15/OBITUARIFS

### **Professor Brian Foss**

Brian Malzard Foss, academic sychologisti born Whittlesey. ambridgeshire 25 October 1921; Lecturer, Institute of xperimental Psychology, Oxford 1948-51; Lecturer. girkheck College, London 1951-64; Professor of Educational Psychology, institute of Education, London 1964-68; Professor of Psychology, Bedford College, London 1968-85, Royal Hollows and Bedford New ollege London 1985-87; died ndon 23 December 1997.

interviewed by a former coleague six weeks before he died, Brian Foss called psychology the most wonderful subject - the best education possible", thus happily endorsing his own choice of subject and career at the end of the Second World War.

Foss's many publications ranged far more widely than his personal research, covering such topics as human conflict, the function of laughter, the control of movement, and biology and art. Interests relating to educational psychology were reflected in publications on the development of moral attitudes and behaviour, and on efficient learning.

His range, his succinct prose style, his energy and his littleparaded but ever-present critical acumen led to his shining success as an editor of scholarly but accessible psychological texts, notably, for Methuen, of The Determinants of Infant Behaviour, volumes i-iv (1961-68) and also, outstandingly, for Penguin Books, where New Horizons in Psychology - which was eventually translated into eight languages - was, in 1965. the first of the 70-odd psychology books to be published by Penguin under his aegis. Under Foss's editorship, the current status of thinking and research in a wide range of areas was described in straightforward lan-

guage by experts in their fields. Foss was the son of a Methodist minister. He went up to Cambridge to take a degree in Natural Sciences (Math-

ematics and Physics), after which he entered military ser- was in human and animal imiwas working in a Military Operations Research Unit whose and their spontaneous reprolibrary of the National Institute of Industrial Psychology, the storehouse of research into hu- as his experimental data to man performance. He then convince him that imitation went to the institute of Experimental Psychology at Oxford to take a Diploma in Psychology, the subject not being dignified by university with degree status until 1949, by which time Foss was a Junior Lecturer there. He proceeded to a Lectureship at Birkbeck College, followed by two Professorships, also at London University, the first in Ed-

second in Psychology: Foss's research career developed without pause for a doctoral thesis, and, indeed, at a time when a PhD, far from being de rigueur, was often conspicuous by its absence from the qualifications of the more

ucational Psychology and the

An early research interest renamed Royal Holloway and vice. At the end of the war he tation. Foss kept mynah birds in al Holloway's site at Egham. It his room at Birkbeck College is a tribute to his cheerful diplodirector led him to explore the ductions of his telephone, and skills that he delivered staff and the sounds of motor cycles students in good order to the starting up outside, did as much was a form of learning not dependent on reward. Innovative investigations

into the factors influencing infant development were funded by a series of grants, many for joint research within a specialist neonatal unit set up at St Mary's Hospital, Paddington. Significant work examined the effects of maternal analysis on neonatal behaviour, and of practice sucking on the feeding skills of pre-term infants.

In 1985, and as a consequence of the pressure to rationalise the constituent schools of London University, it fell to Foss to supervise his department's transfer from Bedford

Bedford New College to Roymacy and his organisational prefabs that became their temporary home, and where teaching continued without interruption. When he retired two years later, he left a department poised to take advantage of the expansion in psychology

as a university subject. Foss. an accomplished chairman, acted in that role from 1972 to 1978 for the Psychology Board of the Council for National Academic Awards (CNAA), entrusted with overseeing the establishment of the many new degree courses to be offered by the polytechnics.

He thought it important for psychology students to acquire skills as well as knowledge, but was not one to view psychology as entirely laboratory-based-He looked to tackle the signif-College in Regent's Park to the icant. if less amenable, questions



Foss: Penguin psychology

posed by behaving organisms. and to integrate the answers with the available information in the biological, evolutionary

and neurological sciences. Brian Foss was a kind, sympathetic and discreet colleague, socially genial, outgoing and witty, and the most adept of hosts. He could do conjuring tricks and was a legendary performer of psychological lyrics at the piano. Some of his surplus energy was devoted to gardening. He and love for, serious music.

Mary J. Pickersgill

### FAITH & REASON

### Diana's legacy to the nation for the New Year

The public response to the death of Diana. Princess of Wales and the scale of the electorate's backing for Tony Blair were merely symptoms of a deeper desire for change in British society. The New Year is the time for leaders of all faiths to harness that, says Dr Zaki Badawi, Principal of the Muslim College.

It is by looking to the past that we prepare for the future. Two events dominated 1997. They also help us as a society make of it. Religion is coming consider the way forward in 1998. The first is the death of not be allowed to fall into the Diana, Princess of Wales hands of those who would whose sudden and gruesome end touched the hearts of peo-modity, not a goal. If religion ple across the world. She was is to occupy once more a cenmourned in Cairo as in Calcutta, in Vienna as in Vancouver - and with such single-minded grief that in many countries the loss of Mother Teresa passed almost unnoticed. Britons changed the way they mourned: the millions of flowers offered in homage to her memory manifested an unsuspected well of feelings which were clearly religious though many people in our secular society did not recognise that.

The second event was the arrival of a Labour government with such an over- have taken us along the road whelming majority. Few doubted that the Conservatives would lose - after all, they have been attempting suicide for the past decade or so. But the extent of their defeat reflected something of the qualities of probity, firmness and fairness which the voters saw in Tony Blair. It was the and provide new ideas and year when ordinary people new directives to our society. articulated a profound disthings were.

Of course there was not change everywhere. The glimmer of hope for peace in Northern Ireland is threatened by an ever-present vicious cycle of feuds between the communities. In the Middle East the peace process has come to a complete halt: without a change of policy by the United States (perhaps allowing Europe and Russia a greater voice in the granting of their long-denied human rights to the Palestinians) the millennium will almost certainly be celebrated with blood and misery in the birth place of Jesus. And the year also witnessed the trial of British women by foreign courts, in Saudi Arabia and the United States, which prompted a wide section of our press to doubt the system to those great values of our of justice in both countries: national solidarity, it seems, came before anything else. But where change oc-

curred it brought hope. The New Year!

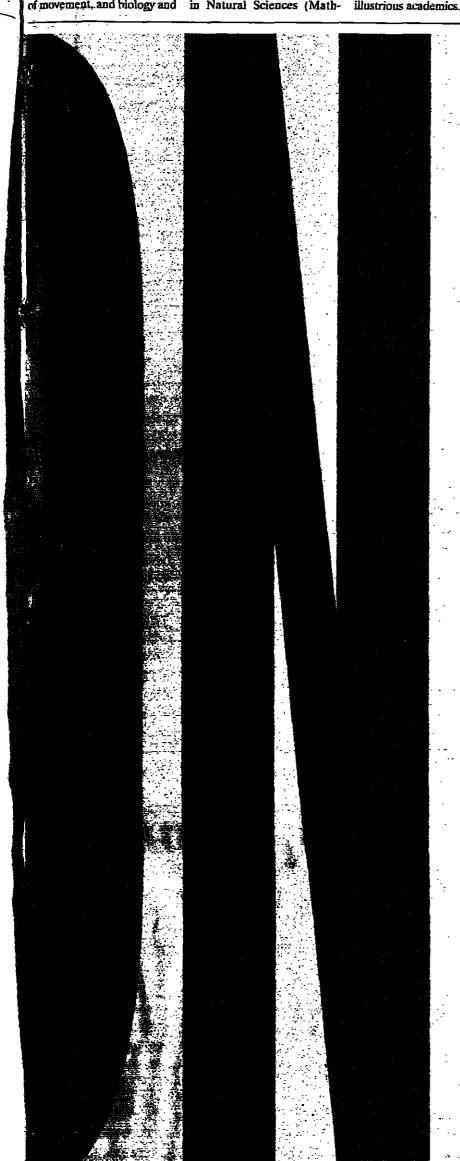
fact that the response of the Muslim community to Diana's death was identical to the rest of the population was a sign of our growing integration. Diana's sensitivity to Islam, in adopting local dress on her visit to Pakistan. and the possibility that she might have been about to marry a Muslim, specially endeared her to us. But it was as a model of kindness, sympathy and approachability that she was held in special esteem.

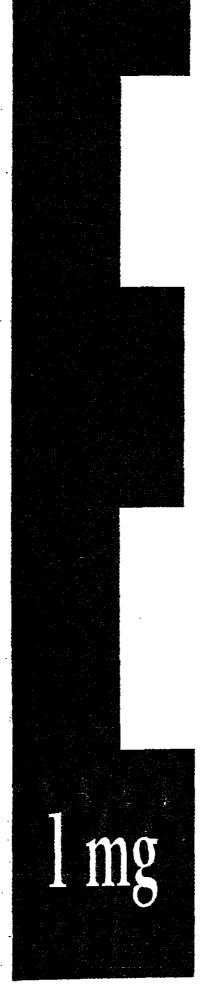
These are spiritual values, but will religion be able to make anything of the groundswell of deep religious feeling manifested in the reaction to her death? This will depend on what religious institutions back into fashion, but it must seek to turn it into a comtral place in society it must prove its value as a force for peace, justice and harmony. The messages coming from our pulpits will ring hollow if they fail to influence our congregations towards those values which people saw in Diana and if we fail to show respect for those with whom we disagree.

The Government will have a role in this. The return to religion in a meaningful way must include recovery of the sense of belonging to society. Individualism and selfishness of the winner takes all, ignoring those who fall by the wayside. Tony Blair's government here will have to edit the script left by the Conservatives - rather than merely acting as executor of Kenneth Clark's will on single mothers, the disabled or undergraduates -

What is encouraging is the satisfaction with the way new sense of purpose I detect in young people here in the rich world. They show a growing intolerance of misery and deprivation in our midst, or in any corner of the world. They feel a growing impatience with the way the Western powers have, for strategic reasons during the Cold War. allowed tyrants and despots in the rest of the world to enjoy their positions unchallenged. They are awakening to the concept of one world, one peace, one justice and one humanity.

We need now to help the young people of all faiths to talk to one another, to visit each other's homes and to grow in respect for other people and their faiths. With such a vigorous movement in interfaith dialogue, the coming year may witness a return faiths which could help cement our relationship and involve all of us in the drive for the common good. Happy





### What better time to move to 1mg?



ULTRA

TOBACCO SERIOUSLY DAMAGES HEALTH

#### Forthcoming marriages

Mr H. R. Greenway and Ms Y. Milich

The engagement is announced between Hugh, elder son of Richard and Ann Greenway, of Havant, Hampshire, and Yelena, elder daughter of Damyan and Danica Pejovich, of Belgrade, Yugoslavia.

### Birthdays

Dr Jack Birks, former managing director of BP, 78; Mr Alister Campbell, rugby player, 38; Lord Colwyn, dental surgeon and jazz trumpeter, 56; Miss Valentina Cortese, actress, 74: Sir James Crane, former Chief Inspector of Constabulary, 77; Mrs Christine Crawley, MEP, 48; Mr Richard Gibson, actor, 43; Baroness Lloyd of Highbury, paediatrician, 70; Miss Zena Marshall, actress, 71; Dr James Merriman, former Chairman, Na-tional Computing Centre, 83; Mr James Moorhouse, MEP, 74; Col Patrick Porteous VC, 80; Lord Kingsland, former MEP, 56: Professor Ralph Raphael, organic chemist, 77; Mr Lawrence Rowe, West Indies cricketer, 49; Mr J.D. Salinger, author, 79.

#### **Anniversaries**

On this day: the Act of Union between Great Britain and Ireland came into being, 1801; Queen Vic-toria was proclaimed Empress of India. 1877; British railways were nationalised, 1948; Great Britain, the Irish Republic and Denmark joined the EEC. 1973.

### BIRTHS, **MARRIAGES** & DEATHS

#### **BIRTHS**

VANDERPANT: To Mary and Barry, a daughter, Clara Marie, on 14 December 1997, a sister to Rosalie.

#### DEATHS

CHURCHICH On 11 December 1947, Veronica Mary Boyle Churchich, Teacher and writer, Writing she used Teacher and writer. Writing she used to say gave her the most enjoyment and she hoped that her novels would have the same effect on her readers. Taught English Literature in a girls high school. Beloved wife of Nicholand Handraised for her generosity, perfect honesty, cheerfulness and good humour, she helped with many charities. Interment at Hither Green Cemetery on Monday 5 January. May God grant her his Eternal Peace.

Announcements for Gazette BIRTHS, MARRIAGES & DEATHS should be sant in writing to the Gazette Editor, The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, tele-The Independent, I Canada Square, Canary Wharf, London E14 5DL, telephoned to 0171-293 2011 or faxed to 0171-293 2010, and are charged at 66.50 a line (VAT extra). O'THER Gazette announcements (notices, functions, Forthcoming marriages, Marriages) must be submitted in writing (or faxed) and are charged at 610 a line, VAT extra. Please include a daytime talephone number.

Changing of the Guard

MOKKILL ers' Warning

### Six wishes (including the end of endless smiling)



**EDITOR: ANDREW MARK** DEPUTY EDITOR: COLIN HUGHES. ADDRESS: I CANADA SQUARE. CANARY WHARE. LONDON EI4 5DL TELEPHONE: 0171 293 2000 OR 0171 345 2000 FAX: 0171 293 2435 OR 0171-345 2435

It's a wishful season so here are half a dozen expressions of hope for the year

Today the United Kingdom assumes the Presidency of the European Union. During the next six months, the starting line up for the single currency has to be decided. Britain's position is fixed, which surely gives the Government an unparalleled opportunity to win Continental friends by acting as an impartial chair, secing the Maastricht criteria on membership are imposed with firmness and fairness. The Presidency is a bully pulpit and our hope has to be that the Government will also use it to enthuse opinion here in Britain, rather than try (as Gordon Brown was fatally tempted to do a month ago) to lecture our neighbours on their failings. The troika of Blair, Brown and Cook must remember they play to a domestic audience which remains sceptical. Yet people want to be inspired by the possibilities of further European unity. The irrelevance of mainstream Conservatism lets the Government define the terms of debate. That requires Mr Blair and colleagues to stop pretending that the real opposition on Europe - our American- and Canadian-owned newspapers - can be squared.

That in turn will require our second wish for 1998 to be realised. It is that Mr Blair give up some of his winsomeness and some of his capacity to be all things to all people. There is a difference, he needs to learn, between maximising consensus and palliating that mythical middle England. To lead is to make enemies. The past

month has surely rammed this lesson home both to Prime Minister and Chancellor of the Exchequer. The welfare state needs reformation, though we do not need to mouth the apocalyptic language of American think tanks to describe how. Any programme of change will produce winners and losers, including some of those currently labelled disabled. Mr Blair has shown he is unafraid to face down opponents. Governing the country calls for periodic and sectional unpopularity.

Yet one problem of the Blair government is that it is all too willing to tell us what is good for us. Commentators have called it Cromwellian, but that is too grand. The Government has sometimes seemed to be made up by nigglers and interferers, by ministers too attracted to prohibitions and removals. Our New Year's wish is that, from what we eat to how we spend, the Government steps back, preferring the policy which maximises our capacity to choose for ourselves and so to create. The Dome is a ready symbol of a policy that depends entirely on creativity. That project will work only if it captures and reflects national imagination and capacity.

Our fourth wish is selfish. Labour inherited from the Conservatives a scheme of press and media regulation that is unfair. To put it bluntly, there are few problems in television, new information technology or newspaper ownership that

would not be solved without the kind of fair competition that prevails elsewhere. This newspaper suffers from competitors' predatory pricing policies that would be disallowed in any other civilised nation. Monopolists such as Rupert Murdoch should be corralled, not for our sake alone, but for the sake of greater pluralism within that "public space" where opinions are traded.

We believe that our political space does not adequately reflect either the public's existing or future preferences and world views and the principal reason is the dominance within it of the historic Labour-Tory duopoly. The way forward is electoral reform, as part of a thoroughgoing overhaul of our governing institutions, starting with Parliament. The Government has made a start but there is a striking contrast between the energy and excitement surrounding the foundation of a Scottish Parliament with the lacklustre approach taken to regenerating democracy in the

ou can't legis!

Appiness, but House of Commons. This year - our fifth wish - let the Government see that it needs to start campaigning on constitutional reform, rather than treating the issue as an embarrassment. The omens are not good. Only yesterday Lord Jenkins, the chairman of the electoral commission examining options for PR, said he believed Tony Blair is "persuadable". We cannot afford that kind of passivity.

Our last wish is firmly grounded in reality. There is every good chance that the British economy will have a "soft landing" as growth slows without pushing up 🐧 unemployment, and down that road lies not only success for the Government's ambitious welfare-to-work plans but several fat years for the public revenues (and public spending). On that note, may we wish you all - our readers - a prosperous new year, since there is every reason to expect that you will have exactly that. Happiness. as Polly Toynbee rightly points out opposite, is another story altogether ...

Post letters to Letters to the Editor and include a daytime telephone number Fax 0171 293 2056; e-mail: letters@independent.co.uk E-mail correspondents are asked to give a postal address. Letters may be edited for length and clarity.

### **LETTERS**

HERE GOES

#### Green taxation

Sir. The main problem with taxation as a means of combating pollution, congestion and similar nuisances ("The questionable credentials of green taxes". 29 December) is that governments become dependent on the revenue it raises. They therefore acquire a vested interest in the continuation of the nuisance and become reluctant to tackle it in more funda-

Vehicle design is the best way to tackle pollution from vehicles, but manufacturers, who have to please their customers rather than society, will not come up with suitable designs without governmental intervention in the form of vehicle construction and use regulations. Regulation should be based on the principle that no vehicle should consume more non-renewable resources, either in manufacture or use, or should cause more danger, pollution, noise or other nuisance than is strictly necessary for the performance of its function.

One implication is that vehicles with a top speed higher than the national speed limit would not be allowed on public roads. Acceleration would also be limited: the present very h rates of acceleration se no useful purpose and make vehicles much more dangerous, as well as more polluting, than they need to be.

al speed limit of 70mph were retained - and the calculations in Dr Mayer Hillman's and my report for the Policy Studies In- in the UK so far. The major stitute, "Speed Control and Transport Policy", suggests that it should be reduced to 55mph or lower - these constraints on performance would make it possible to manufacture vehicles with rates of fuel consumption and exhaust emissions a fraction of present ones.

Civilising the vehicle does not remove the need to reduce car travel in towns. Road pricing could be helpful in some towns but other policy instruments are more important. They include traffic avoidance through land-use planning: the reallocation of road space from cars to pedestrians, cyclists and buses; restrictions on car parking; the creation of car-free zones, including residential arcas as well as shopping and commercial centres. STEPHEN PLOWDEN London NWI

Even if the present nation- Sir: If green taxes have questionable credentials (article, 29 December) it is because they have at best been misused green tax in this country - the levy on motor fuel - has nothing to do with green taxation at all. It is merely a source of government revenue, with none of the resources raised being targeted at mitigating the effects of motoring on the planet.

> Truly hypothecated green taxation offers a method by which government can fully enforce the principle that "the polluter pays" and in the process give a boost to energysaving and waste-minimising MARK ELTRINGHAM

Egglescliffe, Tecsside

#### Benefit cuts

Sir: Proposals – albeit by civil servants who may or may not he thinking the unthinkable to cut industrial injury payments, abolish such benefits for

existing claimants and pass industrial injury benefit schemes over to private sector administrators appear a recipe for disaster rather than revival in our economy ("Blunkett's disquiet",

22 December). The Health and Safety Executive's economists estimated in the 1990s that up to the equivalent of one year's total economic growth in the UK was lost each year because of poor health and safety in the

Prevention is always better than cure. A major way to contribute to national prosperity and job creation would be to cut the appalling UK toll of death and disease in the workplace: far more effective than cutting the benefits of those injured and made ill by their work. Professor ANDREW

Director Centre for Occupational and Environmental Health De Montfort University

#### Funds for the Dome

Sir: Mick Fickling's letter (30 December) gives the impression that the Millennium Experience is being funded from tax revenues. This is simply not

In fact, the Experience is not receiving any money.from the Treasury. It is being paid for through a combination of private sponsorship, lottery money and revenue that the Experience will generate itself through ticket sales and merchandising. The lottery funds allocated to the project amount to only 4 per cent of the total funds distributed to the "good causes" and are provided by the Millennium Commission, a body which was established by Parliament to mark the millennium with capital projects.

Mr Fickling is also wrong to state that the costs of the Experience are escalating. We are ahead of schedule, within budget and on course to deliver an Experience that will in-

volve everyone in Britain and be the envy of the world. GEZ SAGAR Head of Press and Parliamentary Affairs The New Millennium

Experience Company

London SW1

Sir: The year known to most of the Western world as 2000AD is also the Islamic year 1421, the Jewish year 5800 and the year 2750 by the system of the Roman empire. It will also be about 2005 years after the birth of Jesus of Nazareth, due to ancient calendar errors. I hope that the world's leaders see 2000AD for what it is - a mere curiosity. KAVI D CAPILDEO

#### Trinidad and Tobago Victims of violence

Port of Spain. Republic of

Sir: Our professional experience shows that one of the crucial lessons from the new Birmingham research ("Violent videos don't provoke young

people. Violence does", 29 December) is that there is no "quick fix" for this social problem. Above all, a national strategy must be developed by all the relevant agencies, led by government and implemented

at local level.

Government proposals to intervene earlier when young people offend may form part of this strategy but are not enough on their own. More support scrvices for families under stress and for the victims of domestic violence are urgently required. New American research on the impact of "peer pressure" on children's development also reinforces the importance of engaging and supporting young people bevond the home - in school and

on the streets. Developing this kind of integrated strategy may seem a daunting task, but the Birmingham research suggests there is no real alternative in the longer term. We hope policy makers will work with our or-

ganisation and others to meet the challenge. CAROLINE ABRAHAMS NCH Action For Children

### lail university

PRIESTLEY

Sir: Your article "Rooms at the Ritz cheaper than places in child jails" (30 December) leads me to suggest that the Home Office should extract a weekly payment from the parents of the children in these new jails. It would only be a token sum but why should delinquent children be housed, fed and belatedly educated totally at the expense of the taxpayer?

On leaving the jail with a skill that gains them legitimate employment, deductions could also be made from the children's wages which would help pay for their education. After all, if that scheme is to be applied to university students, why not former child criminals? JOHN GOLDSMITH

#### Santa Clauses

Sir. D J R Powell (letter, 24 December) asks "Does Santa exist?" and then offers a supposedly scientific argument to the effect that he does not.

I could question the scientific argument on its own terms - for instance, it ignores the thermodynamics of the massive accelerations and decelerations required for the multiple chimney stops - but this is not the point. The science does not disprove the existence of Santa rather, it tends to imply that Santa is not one person.

In fact, as most children already know, Santa Claus is the original franchised business. Santa manages to hand out millions of presents almost simultaneously in exactly the same way that Colonel Sanders hands out millions of portions of fried chicken. That is not to say that there was no "real" Colonel Sanders - there was. **BOB BROOKS** Bismore, Gloucestershire

### Chez Jesus

Sir: It states very clearly in the Bible that the wise men visited Jesus in a house (Matthew ch2 v11), not a stable (Meanings of Christmas, 29 and 30 December). Why on earth would a couple with a new baby want to remain in an insalubrious stable any longer than necessary? JANE DANCE London E3

#### Old Labour

Sir: While having a clear-out of old papers, I came across a Labour Party policy document from about September 1996, which promises "Women will benefit from a range of our policies including . . . support for single-parent families". **ALLAN DEEDS** 

Daventry, Northaniptonshire

#### Cold comfort

Sir: James Jacoby leaves us wondering (Letters, 30 December) whether the lock he proposes is to keep the contents of his fridge safe from his everhungry teenage sons, or, perhaps understandably at this time of year, to make a convenient form of sub-zero incarceration. If the latter, has he not tried the garden shed? R FRANKLIN London EC1

### Here it is: a year for remarkable progress. Chicken Spice is especially hopeful



Other papers may tamely you bring you a round-up of the highlights of 1997. Only this column brings you a run-down of the main events of 1998 before they arrive. So hold your seats as we whizz through the year to

JANUARY '98. Name of cannabis-dealing cabinet minister's son printed in Scottish papers. Nobody has heard of um. Man in Macao diagnosed as having bird flu. All poultry in Macao slaughtered. Chris Patten forced to rewrite chapter on farming in his book on Asia. Tony Blair comes back from holiday in Seychelles with smiling suntan. Experts think that smiling suntanned PM may pose a health risk to country. England nearly win cricket

chester United boss Alex Ferguson says: "The season is not over till the last match is played". After weeks of torrential rain and flooding, water companies say they may soon lift hosepipe ban. Edinburgh plays host to the "Biggest Burns Night in the World". Many dead. Spice Girls split-up rumours denied.

FEBRUARY '98 Entire staff of Independent on Sunday arrested for selling each other cannabis. Nobody has heard of any of them. Outbreak of bird flu in Shanghai. All fowls slaughtered. Chris Patten forced to rewrite chapter on Shanghai in his new book on Asia. Alex Ferguson says: "Anything can happen between now

match in West Indies. Man- and the end of the season". After studying videos of the Tyson-Holyfield fight, in which Tvson bit Holyfield's ear off, police finally arrest Tyson on cannibalism charges. Man arrested in Slough for passing fake money in shop. It turns out he was trying to pay in ecus. Spice Girls deny they are going to play their last live gig, saying: "We haven't really played our first live gig yet, have we?" Peter Mandelson named as father of cannabis-dealing son. He sues. MARCH '98 Spice Girls breakup rumour denied by Max Clifford. Tony Blair announces grand Millennium plan to combat unemployment A huge, newly recruited workforce will be trained to prevent millen- promises Disney. Rumour

Disney announces it is to make still alive, and that news of his season, so we'll just wait and its biggest and most expensive film yet: an animated version of The Bible. Alex Ferguson says: "Hold on, hold on – it's not the end of the season yet. Oh. is it? Did we win?" Chris Patten diagnosed as having bird flu. Ghost writer drafted in to help finish his book on Asia. Rumours spread like wildfire that Salman Rushdie has been assassinated, and that the fatwa against him, being successful, can now be called off.

APRIL '98 Many pantomimes reluctantly close, throwing enormous quantity of unemployed showbiz people on market place. "No romance between Jesus and Mary Magdalene," nium crash in computers. grows that Salman Rushdie is a long way to the start of the President for a third time,"

"death" was promulgated by police to get fatwa ended. National shock and horror as Richard Branson perishes in high-level halloon accident. In his will, he asks that Sir Elton John not be asked to sing at his funeral, which he asks to take place in Millennium Dome. Mike Tyson acquitted of cannibalism charges on the grounds that he bit but did not eat Evander Holyfield. Holding Ffion's hand, Hague says proudly: "I am going to be a ffather!"

MAY '98 Spice Girls diagnosed as having bird flu. "This will not change our plans," says Chicken Spice. The "late" Salman Rushdie spotted at many parties. Alex Ferguson says: "It's

see." Tony Blair passes law which will devolve responsibility for the behaviour of Scottish fans in World Cup to new Scottish Parliament. Pope expresses outrage on learning that the Disney "The Bible" film will have a happy ending, with Jesus not dying on cross, but staying on to become elder statesman. "We feel it is a Jesus story for a less violent, more-in-touch-with-its-feelings age," says Disney. Mohammed Al Fayed brought into the Cabinet by Tony Blair. "We need his experience," says Blair.

JUNE '98 Bill Clinton contracts strange disease, diagnosed as Presidential withdrawal symptoms. "He cannot by law be

say doctors, "but his body does not know that. Basically, he doesn't want to be President again, he just craves to run again. He was never a very good president, only a wonderful candidate. It's a tragic case." World Cup opens in France. Scotland loses opening game against little-fancied Liechtenstein. "We are our own worst enemies." says Craig Brown. Spice Girls split, and re-form. Tony Blair goes on holiday in Mohammed Al Fayed's castle in Scotland. Chris Patten's ghost writer gets ghost bird flu. Sir Elton John found in serious condition, but cheers up later. Silly season starts.

July to December round-up com-

## 17/COMMENT

### You can't legislate for happiness, but you can try



TOYNBEE ON A BETTER **NEW YEAR** 

What do we want for the new year? Most of us resolve to be thinner, fitter and better (probably in that order) but there's not much a government can do to help us there. Those of us obsessed with the daily doings of government often forget how peripheral it is to most people's general happiness.

Government may marginally affect how much money we have in our pockets. But sophisticated research into happiness suggests that there is no correlation between increases in cash and increases in happiness for most people. (Yes, all those old homilies really are true.) Once lifted above penury, money doesn't much matter. Yet money is the only way governments measure what they do. We have economic, trade and production indicators, nice, easy tallies of national success and failure, but those tell us very little about how we feel, individually or as a nation.

Alongside those figures, perhaps we should collect National Happiness Ratings (NHR) as the true measure of our state. Annual figures would have to be seasonally adjusted, since monthly figures might dip sharply at this low ebb of the year with many suffering from SADness (seasonal affective disorder). or just post-Christmas gloom. But NHR could be a critical test of a government's stewardship. After all, a prime historical purpose of government is to secure the greatest happiness for the greatest number: the American constitution even has the pursuit of bappiness as a right. But the pursuit of wealth seems to be all governments can manage - a more modest ambition.

Lifting the national spirits is a difficult business. Simply by being elected, this goveriment gave us a good couple of months' cuphoria. The most unlikely people, who hadn't even voted for it, found themselves surprised by an unexpected glow of optimism. it wasn't just glee at seeing the previous incumbents slinking away in all their shabby, mean-minded, valueless tatters. Inchoate and maybe unreasonable hope was in the air.

Then events began to eat into Labour, the way events always do. Have they lost their way? Do they still know what they are there for? Can we remember what we hoped for and why we hoped so much? Yes, is the answer. There is still plenty to hope for, OK. so the ione-parent benefit fiasco suggests they lost the plot, if the plot was to make the lives of the poorest better. It was, though, a bungled botch, not an emblem of their true intent. But it has left them with twice the obligation to prove their good intentions and recover that spirit of hope and generosity people felt at their election.

What could this government do to push up the National Happiness Rating? The easiest place to start is by tackling those who are inhappy for the most obvious and tangible ens -the poor for whom money really does matter. Start, say, with the 1.8 million poor pensioners living on income support. They are no use to anyone, their productivity and employment irrelevant on every other national indicator. But if happiness counted, the NHR would get a terrific boost by giving a large pensioner supplement on income support, easily financed out of the billions to be saved by abolishing National Insurance benefits for all the better off. Ditto the severely disabled and anyone else who, for whatever reason, will never work again. That would make everyone feel better.

But most people are not poor. So if the Government could really persuade itself to believe that money is not everything, it could be less fearful of taxes and more ambitious about generating public hope, pleasure and pride. Every pound spent well on the public good stands a far better chance of iroproving the NHR than each extra pound in the pocket. The right says the individual will always spend his or her own money better than the state - but over 18 years they have proved themselves conclusively wrong.

The Conservatives left behind a public squalor and dilapidation which demoralised and degraded us. While the huge growth in home ownership was one of the few Tory achievements, it was partly soured by the growing shabbiness and lack of pride in all the public places and spaces where people spend so much of their time once they leave their front doors.

Children spend years in seedy, rundown schools; it's hard to make them believe that what goes on in the classroom is valuable if the school itself is like a leaking, rundown dosshouse with stinking lavatories and no books. Doctors and nurses may still be heroes, but if people visit grubby, understaffed bospitals that run out of sheets, they don't feel the pride they did in a national health service.

How are people to feel good about work, when travelling there grows more hellish every year, with chaotic railways, crammed carriages and a London tube system fast becoming a nightmare? (Last week I spend half an hour comforting a distressed elderly woman panicking as we were stuck in a tunnel while she was missing her long-awaited hospital appointment.)

Governments can do little about personal bappiness: some people are naturally disposed to be happy, others never will be. Try as they foolishly might, governments can do nothing to create the stable, happy families most people want. Nor can governments do much to ease people's anxiety about insecure working conditions in this global market.

But out there, in the public part of our lives, this government could do much to raise spirits. First it has to believe it itself. It's time the Government started to say that wellbeing depends at least as much on public spending for the common good as it does on private spending. It is not old socialist redistribution, but an obvious truth: some of the things that make us feel good can only be bought communally. If no one dares say that, certainly no one will dare do it.

The economic gains of the past 18 years - most people are 30 per cent richer - were invisible to the public eye. Video recorders, foreign holidays, mobile phones, new cars, video cameras, all these were private pleasures. Meanwhile, out on the streets and in the public places, we looked and felt seedy and run-down. It wasn't just the obvious signs - new battalions of beggars and rough sleepers, the peeling paint on every public building - there was a deliberate denigration of civic pride, public values, public service.

Now is the time for a good government to make our public wealth match our private riches. If that means spending a few more public pounds and a few fewer private ones to redress the balance, so be it. Good public transport, beautiful parks, bright streets, inspiring school buildings, museums, public sports centres and gleaming hospitals would make us all feel better about ourselves.



Different hues: the Irish do not share the English perspective on hunting Photograph: Tom

### Share the tribal language and you will always find a welcome



the west of Ireland. The inhabitants of County Galway have celebrated the festive season with oceans of Jameson and Bailey's, everyone has gone to Mass, local children affect to believe in someone called "Santy", and carols play redundantly over the Tannov in the clothes store, days after everyone has grown tired of the whole jovial business. The weather has been foul, the rain persistent, shading into

It is the turn-of-the-year interregnum, a time for calm reflection with mature and philosophically-disposed associates. Which is why we find ourselves in this pleasant bar, 10 of us, at 1.15 in the rainy night-time. Michael the accordion player - having beguiled

Hill" and "Lovely Letrim" and (rather a change of pace, here) Elvis Presley's "Wooden Heart" and the national anthem (everyone in the bar stood up and glared at my still-seated form; this would never happen, I am fairly sure, in Dulwich) has gone home, but this does not stop the chap beside me singing "Mursheen Durkin" with a kind of brutal hilarity. It is at this moment that Martin, the weather-beaten, seen-itall-barman, rushes into the

"Quiet," he commands us. "The guards are outside." Yeah, yeah. This is an old barman's threat, as old as the crumbling Norman castles that dot the Atlantic shoreline. But it might be true. After-hours drinking is still illegal, even here. The landlord could be fined or lose his licence. The carousers would then become the object of public obloquy for being responsible for the loss of his livelihood. Nobody wants to see Martin and his hearty, welcoming wife pitched out of the parish. So, for the moment, Tom stops singing. One of the It is 1.15am in a small town in ladies turns slightly pale, like a novice nun caught in a speakeasy, and knocks back her modest brandy and soda as if it will incriminate her. And in comes the majesty of the law. Against all the odds, the

> bloody Garda Siochona are outside. We now have a cop in our midst, with his peaked cap and businesslike bustle. We sit, as red-handed as Macheth. whiskeys, port-and-lemonades and assorted drinker's paraphernalia in front of us, as he moves around taking in the scene. He walks urgently across the bar, his forensic sobriety contrasting with our shamefaced fuzziness. We are all for the high jump. What can we do? I am reminded of a Flann O'Brien playlet called Thirst. where a group of after-hours

liceman to drink with them by talking to him about sand dunes, palm trees, the Gobi Desert, the pitiless sun. I'm afraid this will not work here. The guard surveys the scene one more time - our embarrassed faces, our table groaning with alcohol – and says, "Γπ awful sorry to be disturbin' ye all". Can he be serious? Is he being ironic? I look at Tom and Frank and the others and suddenly see how they might be causing the law a few problems. For they represent, between them, two headmasters, the local vet, two teachers, one ward sister and the pillar of a

If the policeman ever wants to get his children into secondary education, have his dog cured of distemper or his old Mum successfully relieved of a grumbling appendix in the Regional Hospital, it might be wise to practise lenience with this bunch. But how can he do so without seeming to falter?

dozen local committees.

He looks round the bar a last time. Then he speaks. "Caith siar iad." he says, and departs. My Gaelic is rusty, but I believe this means only "Throw them hack". He has let us off, and done so by the silkiest of means. by saving it in Irish - forsaking the letter of the law and the language of the old oppressor for the language of the tribe. There is a silence after the closing door, "Now Frank," says one of the teachers. "Can you still do Take These Chains From My

Monday evening, we clamber into tuxedoes and waistcoats for the annual Hunt Ball in Oranmore The Galway Blazers is just one of three hunts in the region, but has the reputation of being the hardest-riding, the toughest, the most intrepid, Few people can remember much trouble from saboteurs in the last couple of years, since

a girl of 11 was pulled off her horse by protesters attempting to persuade her of the ills of hunting. The saboteurs were set about with ashplants and their video cameras smashed and dumped in the nearest bog.

But since fox-hunting has been such a hot topic in England all through the autumn, one looks for signs of concern among these dedicated houndsmen that an Irish equivalent of the Foster Bill may seek to outlaw blood sports here in the West. One looks in vain. Hunting is lodged deep in the Galway psyche and is an accepted way of life for local farmers, rather than being the rebarbative hobby of a few homicidal aristocrats, as the anti-hunting lobby sometimes likes to sell it in England.

Ireland is stiff with horses. There are 32,000 thoroughbreds in the stables of the Republic. Within a 10-mile radius of the town where I'm staying, 120 horses are currently in training. No one is going to deprive Galwegians of their headlong gallop across the flat meadows and dry-stone walls of the county. Talk to Jerome ("Min") Mahoney, the Blazers' charismatic chairman - a ramrod-backed, noble-browed Irish Squire Allworthy - and you realise they've quite enough to worry about if the British Bill becomes law. The sporting horse market is worth a cool £100m to the Irish economy. and would suffer drastic wounds. So would the network

of point- to-point meetings which the National Hunt organises. The ethics of slaughtering dear, inoffensive little foxes is the last thing they worry about. "It's not a question of different opinions about hunting." Mahoney told me. "It's about different cultures. The urban population in England have no idea how much a rural population like ours feels under threat." He has been lobbying every MP in the House of Commons to persuade them to oppose the Bill on 8 March, urging that they should devote their energies to supporting "rural development", in the form of heritage centres and tourist treks, rather than to interfering in the traditions of red-coated minorities.

Which would be all very well if the established bunts showed any sign of accommodating outsiders. They don't. When it comes to allowing strangers to ride with them, they're as exclusive as a St James's club. Tell me, I asked a grog-blossomed huntsman - if the Quorn and Pytchlev discovered themselves unable to chase foxes any longer after March and asked if they could link up with the Over my dead body, he replied with vehemence. But surely (I persisted), if Prince Charles and Camilla Parker Bowles fancied a bit of a run from Cartymore, you'd welcome them, wouldn't you? "Arrah." he said. with old-fashioned distaste. "They'd be more trouble than they're worth."

### It will be a time of wars and willies. Lots of lovely news, in fact



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RUPERT CORNWELL A HICCUP OF HISTORY

What, one may wonder surveying 1997, has happened to news? True, last year was a cracker for the British, if we measure it by our own contribution to newsworthy events on this planet. According to an ananal poll-by-the Associated Press news agency of its newspaper subscribers, no less than three of the six biggest international stories were Britishmade. Top of the list, naturally. was the death of Princess Diana, followed by the handoverof Hong Kong, and in sixth place, the election of Tony Blair. Not bad for an offshore Soviet Union. In truth however,

hundredth of the world's population, at peace and without an external enemy in sight. But consider them again. International news used to

consist of events that were un-

expected and dramatic, sometimes villainous, and which could shape the destiny of peoples and states. Diana's death though was ultimately merely that of a super-celebrity, however unexpected. The transfer of Hong Kong to China meets the destiny-shaping qualification but it had been on the stocks for 13 years and went off exactly as planned. As for Mr Blair's victory, it may yet reshape our future. But once again, it was anything but unexpected. What happened to the coups, resignations, assassinations, natural disasters and wars of yesteryear? By that yardstick, 1997 looks a dud. Stability, you might think, is breaking out all over. Maybe we haven't reached the end of history, but during the last 12 months it sometimes felt like it.

One reason is that everything which now happens abroad comes as an anticlimax after the geopolitical upheavals of 1987 to 1991, which culminated in the collapse of the

island, containing only one it was business as usual in 1997 for coups, assassinations and wars (although it was a "poor" year for natural disasters). Alas, foreign news has not been the same since the end of the Cold War. Back then, small confrontations could have deadly potential consequences, and we cared. These days, even medium sized wars seem local matters. The planet remains a very violent place. But the majority of these wars are within states, not between them. At the end of 1997, Lon-

don's International Institute for Strategic Studies identified just nine old-style interstate conflicts (mostly border conflicts in Africa) compared with 19 "intrastate". These latter include full-blown civil wars such as those in Algeria, Afghanistan, and Rwanda but not the two dozen countries blighted by terrorism, among them nations such as Egypt where terrorism possibly could expand into civil war. What is missing is the old East-West dimension.

Last year, more than ever. changes in the economy and the environment, and exponential technological advance, set the pace, rather than the politicians who limped along in their wake. "Globalisation", financial

collapse in Asia, El Nino and global warming are issues which transcend national frontiers and narrow national interests. The response of the politicians tended to be one large and unwieldy conference after another (among the 1997 specimens the industrial nations summit in Denver, the Pacific Rim confabulations in Vancouver, and of course Kyoto). A prize for anyone who remembers what specifically emerged from any

one of them. So maybe the Yankees baseball player and legendary barstool sage Yogi Berra is spot on with his mangled syntax: "The future ain't what it used to be." But all is not lost. Despite the changing forces which shape our world, we still belong to the quarrelsome human species. perennially aggressive and ever unsatisfied with its lot. The world is not the tedious place it seems. Indeed, 1998 has rich potential for news the way it used to be.

The most likely theatre for a new war is, as always, the Middle East, where the Israel/Arah conflict is virtually the last of the "old news" crises to have outlived the demise of the Cold War. Thanks to Benjamin Netanyahu, it may well turn into

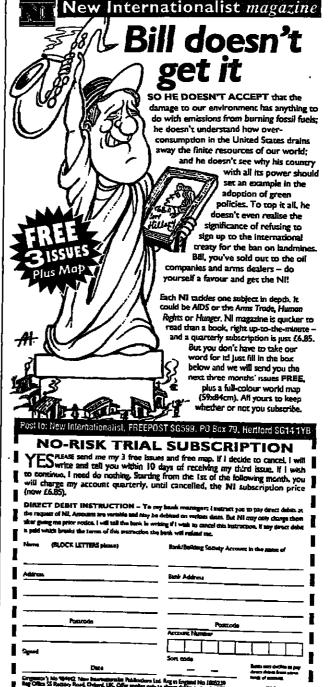
direct implications for all of us. especially if it is fanned by an increasingly truculent Saddam Hussein, or if other combustibles such as Islamic fundamentalism in Egypt or Saudi Arabia enter the brew. Closer to home too, things

could get exciting. Maybe financial cataclysm from the Orient will dispel the unnatural aura of inevitability that has settled on the single currency. the most ambitious single step towards a united Europe since the Treaty of Rome 41 years ago. Next autumn, German voters have a chance to do what they have never done in the post-war history of their country, and throw out a chancellor at the ballot box. If they do elect a centre coalition after 16 years of Helmut Kohl, it would be a change no less momentous than the advent of New Labour here. 1998 too might be when Boris Yelisin succumbs to illhealth and the actuarial science (at no he has already exceeded the average lifespan of the Russian male by seven years).

The most conceited country award for 1998 is likely to go to the US, basking not just in unchallenged military might but in economic supremacy too, as those once cocky For Eastern a hot one which could have tigers go to the wall. Certainly, Not if we win the World Cup.

America's growth may be dented by the travails of Japan, South Korea - who knows, of China too? But if the US sneezes, the rest of us will catch a worse cold. About the only hope of embarrassment (if not modesty) comes from Paula Jones' sexual harassment case against President Clinton, assuming it goes ahead as scheduled in May, attended by a press pack befitting a war. Already it assured of being the year's Most Entertaining Event. If things were to stay quiet on other fronts, it could be The Event of 1998 tout court. First Diana, then the Presidential organ; thus the descent of news continues, from glossy tragedy to sordid farce.

What else? For Most Boring Event of 1998, the G-8 summit in Birmingham in May will be a prime candidate. If the lid can be kept on in the Middle East, the US may finally mend tences with Iran. For reasons I know not. I have a hunch that the horrors in Algeria will abate. Elsewhere though, the mayhem will continue, and the law of averages will ensure that 1998 is more newsy than 1997. That of course may cost us our place in the AP top six. But then again, maybe not.



### Arts Diary of 1998: our guide to the cultural year ahead

**JANUARY** 



"It's a play about changes," said Kevin Elyot of his 1994 smash My Night With Reg and the award-winning playwright doesn't look like he's done with the corrosive effects of time quite yet. Premiering at the National, Elyot's eagerly anticipated The Day I Stood Still brings together three friends from the Sixties to see how life's treated them in the meantime (opens 15 Jan).

Having flirted with the new BritArtists in Sensation, the Royal Academy catches up with a few old friends of its own. More than 100 of the Academy's country cousins have handed over the pride of their collections for Art Treasures of England, billed as a celebration of the strength and diversity of England's regional galleries and museums (22 Jan-13 Apr).

**FEBRUARY** 

January could well be the last time you

B-boys dominate the visual arts this month: Bonnard at the Tate, Bacon and Cartier-

Bresson at the Hayward. Late in his life,

artistic investigation into the familiar and

Of a piece, though altogether more ex-

treme, is the late Francis Bacon's vision of

the human body at its most vulnerable. Sur-

the everyday (from 12 Feb).

get to see The Verve play anywhere as small as the Brixton Academy. Quite how the onetime Oasis support act will cope with mega-stardom in 1998 is another matter, so make certain you catch Ashcroft & Co while they're on the up (16, 17 Jan).

The Barbican's mammoth, year-long festival of American culture, Inventing America, gets going this month. There are continually running programmes of literature, theatre, visual art, music and film events; but, without doubt, January's highlight is the long-awaited London premiere (albeit in concert only) of John Adams's headline-grabbing opera, Nixon in China (25 Jan).

This month will also see Phyllis (Disappeared) Nagy's star continue in the ascendant. Her new play at the Royal Court, Never Land, stars Pip Donaghy - who has emerged intact from the carnage of Blasted - and Sheila Gish, fresh from Playhouse Creatures and with an Olivier to show for her performance in the triumphant Company (opens

At the cinema, James Cameron's \$250m fx fest, Titanic, hoves into view and Twentieth Century Fox will be praying that they don't go down with all hands - Kate Winslet and Leonardo DiCaprio (pictured above left) included - on board the most expensive movie ever made (opens 23 Jan). Meanwhile, Wim Wenders fans will be hoping The End of Violence - a near-future media violence polemic and the pick of the New Year's non-multiplex fare - marks a return to form for an art-house auteur who's been off kilter for over a decade (opens 9 Jan).

Stand by too for a first national tour by 1997 Perrier Award winner Johnny Vegas - big man, big laughs, big pots (from 30 Jan).

post-war painters, this Hayward exhibition,

curated by David Sylvester, is the first ma-

Spice Girls, remember them? The Christmas No Is (right) - assuming they're still all as one - are playing Wembley Arena (18-

The National Gallery marks the 100th anniversary of the birth of Henry Moore: maquettes of Moore's sculptures will be set alongside works from the gallery's collection that inspired him (3 April-31 May).

Placido Domingo joins Royal Opera forces in search of the Holy Grail for three concert performances of Wagner's final Parsiful at the RFH (23, 28 April, 1 May), while Aida marches into Earls Court complete with orchestra (RPO), choir (London Philharmonic) and a cast of thousands well, 600 to be more exact (23-25 April).

Howard Davies directs Eugene O'Neill's The Iceman Cometh at the Almeida with Kevin Spacey, Rupert Graves and Clark Peters, who will no doubt be aware what be-



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Street market tiers of the season

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fell one member of the cast the last time Davies staged this marathon in the 1970s ? - Ian Holm succumbed to a bout of stage fright that lasted 15 years (opens 14 April).

MAY

Following their seminal Seventies musictheatre collaboration Einstein on the Beach, more po-mo high-jinks from American director/designer Robert Wilson and composer Philip Glass (right) in Monsters of Grace, a multi-media animation treatment of the spiritual love poetry of the 13thcentury Persian mystic Jelaluddin Rumi -3D specs supplied (19-23 May).

Glyndebourne's 1998 summer season offers new stagings of Mozart's Così fan tutte (from 21 May) and Handel's Rodelinda (from 13 June), while the Royal Opera follows where Garsington last year led with two concert performances of Richard Strauss's whimsical mussel-singing romp, Die Aegyptische Helena (22, 25 Mav).

Meanwhile, Jonathan Larson's Broadwhere the plot of Puccini's La Bohème Royal Opera-tors (opens 12 May).



tests HIV positive - takes over London's way musical sensation Rent - the one Shaftesbury Theatre from the outgoing

jor showing of Bacon's work in the UK for 10 years (from 5 Feb).

Be they film adaptations, novels, short

stories or plays, Irvine Welsh unlocks twenty-somethings' wallets faster than you can say "smack". The West Yorkshire Playhouse must therefore be grateful that it's premiering You'll Have Had Your Hole, in which. apparently, two inner-city low-lifes seek retribution in a recording studio. Sounds about par for the course (19 Feb-21 Mar).

Corin Redgrave takes the role of the warden in the National's world premiere of Not About Nightingales, an early Tennessee Williams prison drama. Which is only fair since his sister, Vanessa, re-discovered the play. If, as is reckoned, Williams wrote the play before his breakthrough with The Glass Menagerie, Nightinales will hopefully anticipate his classic body of work rather than - as recent late-Williams revivals have unfortunately tended to do - reveal a once-great playwright fading into senescence (from 27 Feb).

the French painter turned his attention from the rich landscapes and interiors for which It's Madame Butterfly's turn for the Royhis wife. Sarah Whitfield, in putting together Following Raymond Gubbay's stack 'em the first major Bonnard retrospective in high, sell 'em cheap opera-in-the-round versions of La Bohème and Carmen, Aussie Britain since the Sixties, argues that both director David Freeman is planning to flood the great Marthe-in-the-bath paintings (detail above) and the self-portraits reprethe arena and give Puccini's poor little sent the conclusion of Bonnard's life-long geisha girl a soaking (from 19 Feb).

Up on the big screen, black America gets the Steven Spielberg makeover in Amistad." The director's very personal take on the plight of a group of slaves recaptured after a shipboard revolt is already kicking up prisingly for one of the country's greatest a race storm in the States (opens 27 Feb).

JUNE

Her salty debunkings of Disney stole the show at the Hayward's Spellbound exhibition a couple of years ago: now painter Paula Rego (right) reveals her latest works - "costume dramas" based on 19th-century Portuguese literature - at the Dulwich Picture Gallery (17 June-19 July).

Andrew Lloyd Webber's new musical, Whistle Down the Wind, gives Mary Hayley Bell's touching (and unforgettably filmed) tale of simple children who mistake an escaped convict for Christ a transatlantic shift from the glum North to the deep South. A pre-Broadway flop in the USA, it arrives in London this month at a venue yet to be confirmed (not the Old Vic - Lord Webber wouldn't stump up the readies).

Movie director Atom Egoyan makes his British opera debut with the ENO premiere of Gavin (Jesus' Blood Never Failed Me Yet) Experiment (from 15 June).



Bryars's long-awaited, Jules Verne-based and Blake Morrison-scripted Doctor Ox's

IULY TO DECEMBER

What will Rex Harrison, Phillip Schofield and Eddie Murphy have in common by the end of July? They'll all have played Dr Dolittle. For the one-time sidekick of Gordon the Gopher, the Labatt's Apollo staging of Leslie Bricusse's film is a natural progression, while Murphy needs to make talking to the animals a big-screen summer-smash to confirm his return to the Hollywood A-list.

Following the so-so reception of her triple bill at the 1997 Edinburgh Festival. a return to the peerless best of Twyla Tharp (right) is expected with the UK premiere of the legendary choreographer's Roy's Joys (as in Roy Eldridge, the jazz trumpeter) at the Barbican (28 July-8 Aug).

August sees The Stones roll into town - well, Wembley (20 Aug) - as well as the start of the 1998 Edinburgh International Festival (16 Aug-5 Sept), but be warned, the Fringe Fest is threatening to kick off

a whole week earlier than the official bash. In September, the Barbican hosts the first major UK showing of American artist Cindy Sherman (10 Sept-13 Dec), while the Dulwich Picture Gallery awards Pieter de Hooch what it claims (remarkably for a painter whose eye for space and light is second only to Vermeer's) to be the 17th-century Dutchman's first one-man show (3) Sept-15 Nov). Edward Albee's latest, The Play about the Baby, arrives at the Almeida.

October highlights include a Barbican recital by the veteran American mezzo Marilyn Horne, once the voice of Carmen Jones (9 Oct), and a Tate Gallery exhibi-

tion devoted to John Singer Sargent, the 19th-century artist hailed by Rodin as "the Van Dyck of his time" (15 Oct-17 Jan).

Come November, the Barbican's Inventing America season concludes its film diary with Jazz in the Movies - a season of early "juke box" films, straight jazz flicks such as Pete Kelly's Blues, and classic con-

cert films such as Jazz on a Summer's Day. Then, as winter nights draw in, Leonard Bernstein's gaily glittering, hest of all possible musicals, Candide, is guaranteed to bring the Barbican a little pre-Christmas cheer (18, 19 Dec), while December also dangles the possibility of an Emma Thompson Rosalind in a Sam Mendes As You Like It.

Guide compiled by Mike Higgins. All information subject to change.

MARCH



1997's Wilde fever continues with The Judas Kiss. David Hare's new play (adapted from an unshot filmscript) opening at the Playhouse and offering us the first

life after the National Theatre. Big-screen swoon boy Liam Neeson (left) - no stranger to playing Irish icons - is lined up for the part of Oscar, with Tom Hollander booked as Bosie (opens 19 March).

We all know what happened the last time Ralph Fiennes starred in an adaptation of a Booker Prize-winning novel, so great things are expected of Oscar and Lucinda, a screen adaptation of the Peter Carev novel that finds Fiennes cast as a 19th-century gambling preacher challenged, with his twin sister (Cate Blanchett), to build a glass church in the Australian outback (opens 6 March).

Massive Attack's Blue Lines opened the decade of dance music, Protection re-emphasised their dominance and now everyone holds their breath for the Bristolian collective's third album, which they are scheduled to tour this month (stopping off at the Shepherd's Bush Empire on 20 March).

The Dulwich Picture Gallery's new exhibition Italy in the Age of Turner hopes to show there was a generation of artists - Turner, Samuel Palmer and John Ruskin among them - for whom Italy was more than picchance to see how Richard Eyre copes with turesque classical ruins (4 March-24 May).

'Two questions hang over a Rolling Stones concert as inevitably as the pair of 200ft inflatable nudes framing the stage,' wrote David Lister when the Stones kicked off their latest world tour in Soldier Field, Chicago, last September. 'Can they cut it? Should they cut it?' And the answer our critic came up with was: 'Well, yes. Just...' UK fans can seek satisfaction for themselves when the

LONDON CINEMAS (central London, today's showings only; please check times with venues)

ABC BAKER STREET (0171-935 9772) ← Baker St Home Alone 3 / 15pm, 3 30pm, 6.50pm L.A. Confidential 8 05pm The Tango Lesson 1 25pm, 3 40pm, 6 15pm, 8 35pm ABC PANTON STREET (0171-930 0631) ← Picc Circ Mrs Brown 1 20pm, 3 40pm, 6pm, 8 25pm LA Confid-2pm, 5pm, 8pm Wilde 1 10pm, 3 30pm 6pm, 8 20pm The Game 2.20pm, 5 20pm, 8,10pm

ABC PICCADILLY (0171-437 3561) ← Picc Circ Chasing Amy 1 15pm, 3 25pm, 5 55pm, 8 35pm G.f. Jame 1 40pm, 5,40pm, 8 20pm ABC SHAFTESBURY AVENUE (0171-836 6279) ← Leic Sq. Chasing Army 2.15pm, 5 15pm, 8 15pm

Wilde 1 05pm, 3 30pm, 5 55pm, 8 35pm ABC SWISS CENTRE (0171-439 4470) & Leic Sq. EAppartement 1 10pm, 3 40pm, 6 10pm, 8 40pmLawn Dogs 1 10pm, 3 30pm, 6 20pm, 8 50pm Marius Et Jaannette 1pm, 3 15pm, 6pm, 8 55pm Ma Vie En Rose 1 10pm, 3 10pm, 5 10pm, 7 10pm 9 10pm

ABC TOTTENHAM COURT ROAD (0171-636 6148)

→ Toti Ct Rd Spiceworld - The Movie 1.15pm, 3.25pm 5.35pm, 7.45pm, 9.55pm Tomorrow Never Dies 1.10pm, 3.50pm, 6.30pm, 9.10pm Welcome To Sarajevo 1.35pm,

BARBICAN CINEMA (0171-382 7000) ← Moorgale Spiceworld - The Movie 4.15pm, 6.30pm, 8.30pm Tomorrow Never Dies 3pm, 6pm, 8.40pm

CURZON MAYFAIR (0171-369 1720) ← Green Park Termorrow Never Dies 1 pm, 3 30pm, 6pm, 8 30pm CURZON PHOENIX (0171-369 1721) Dec Sq Keap The Aspidistra Flying 1.15pm, 6 15pm Shooting Fish 3 45pm, 8 30pm

CURZON WEST END (0171-439 4805) ← Leic So/Tobenham Court Road It's A Wonderful Life 2.40pm, 5.30pm, 8.15pm EMPIRE LEICESTER SQ (0171-437 1234) & Leic Sq The Full Monty 3.30pm, 6pm, 8.30pm Seven Years in Tibet 3pm, 6 15pm, 9.20pm Spiceworld - The Movte 1 50pm, 4 15pm, 6.40pm, 9 05pm

ODEON HAYMARKET (0181-315 4212) - Pict Circ **eneration** 2pm, 6 10pm, 8.45pm ODEON KENSINGTON (0181-315 4214) - High SI Ken Allen: Resurrection 9.40pm The Borrowers 12.25pm, 2.45pm, 5.05pm Cop Land 7.15pm George Of The Jungle 12noon.

2 10pm, 4 20pm Hercules 12 15pm Home Alone 3 1 35pm, 4 10pm, 6 45pm I Know What You Did Last Summer 2 40pm 5.05pm, 7 30pm, 9 55pm Seven Years In Tibet 9 15pm 5.05pm, 7 30pm, 9 55pm 5.05pm, 2.35pm, 5pm, 7 20pm, 9.40pm Starship Troupers 6.30pm, 9.30pm Tomorrow Never Dies 1pm, 3 50pm, 6 40pm, 9 30pm ODEON LEIC SQ (0181-315 4215) ← Leic Sq

Stones roll into Wembley in August

Tomorrow Never Dies 12.25pm, 3.05pm, 5.50pm, 8.35pm ODEON MARBLE ARCH (0181-315 4216) 

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Alten Resurrection 1 15pm, 3 40pm, 6 10pm, 8 45pm; Starship Troopers 1 45pm, 4 55pm, 7 45pm PEPSI IMAX CINEMA (0845-600 0505) → Picc Circ Across The Sea Of Time - A New York Adventure (3D) 11 30am, 1 30pm, 3 30pm, 5 30pm, 7 30pm, 9 30pm Beaver 230pm Blue Planet 4 30pm, 10 30pm Brand Canyon - The Hidden Secrets 10 30am Thrill Ride - The Science Of Fon 12,30pm, 8 30pm

PLAZA (0171-437 1234) → Picc Circ The Borrowers 2 30pm. 4 30pm, 6 30pm, 8 25pm Cop Land 1 30pm, 4pm, 6 10pm, 9 40pm I Know What You Did Last Summer 1 45pm, 4 05pm, 6 20pm, 8 40pm One Night Stand 1 40pm, 3 55pm, 6,20pm, 8 45pm

RENORR (0171-837 8402) ← Russell Sq Kitchen (Wo Al Chufang) 1 35pm 3 55pm, 6,15pm 8 40pm The Tango Lesson 2pm, 4 15pm, 6 30pm 8 50pm SCREEN ON BAKER STREET (0171-486 0036) ⊕ Baker St The Borrowers 2 40pm, 4 55pm 6 40pm Starship Troopers 8 30pm Temperow Never Dies 3pm, 6 10pm, 8 40pm SCREEN ON THE SREEN (0171-026 3520) ◆ Ange

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OTHER VENUES CHELSEA CINEMA (0171-351 3742).
ELEPHANT & CASTLE CORONET (9171-703 4968).
CLAPHAM PICTURE HOUSE (0171-498 2242);
GATE NOTTING HILL (0171-727 4043);
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NOTTING HILL CORONET (0171-727 6705).
ODEON CANDEN TOWN (0181-315 4055); PHOEIX (EAST FINCHLEY) (0181-44 6789); RHTZY (BROXTOM)
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HILL WHITELEYS (BAYSWATER) (0171-369 1723)

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BUSINESS & CITY EDITOR. JEREMY WARNER NEWS DESK: 0171-293 2636 FAX: 0171-293 2098 E-MAIL: INDYBUSINESS@INDEPENDENT.CO.UK FINANCIAL JOURNAL OF THE YEAR

### Farce as Stock Exchange rethinks closing prices

A roller-coaster year for the London stock market descended into farce yesterday after the Stock Exchange amended the closing prices of more than one in 10 of the FTSE 100 stocks after the market lost 32 points in the last few minutes of trading. Cifford German reports on the Exchange's attempts to prevent rogue trading.

The index of leading shares fell 31.8 points in the last 10 minutes of trading to dose at 5,133.8, but after an hour's deliberation it was revised back up to 5,135.5, a gain of 3.2 on the day and almost 25 per cent on the year. At midday the index had been 33.3 higher at 5,165.6.

The Stock Exchange subsequently decided to strike out closing prices for 11 Footsie stocks.

One stock - Sun Life & Provincial - was revised up by 6.5 per cent after the Exchange struck out a final deal at 430p and replaced it with a price of 460p, while Reed International's share price was amended to 610p from 580p, a 5.2 per cent revision. Bank of Scotland, British Land, Glaxo Wellcome, Halifax, Lasmo, Norwich Union, Shell and Tomkins were all amended upwards while General Accident had its closing price cut back.

Yesterday's unprecedented actions are acutely embarrassing for the Exchange,

which had hoped to avoid sharp moves in share prices close to the end of trading.

Fears that market prices would be deliberately manipulated had prompted it to introduce a new formula for New Year's Eve whereby a closing share price would be ignored if it had moved by an "exceptional amount" compared with three specific points in the last hour's trading.

The Exchange said movements in the prices of the remaining 89 shares had not been deemed exceptional.

The revisions prompted a small adjustment in the value of the FTSE 100 index. However, the Exchange is understood not to be investigating the 30-point fall in the value of the index in the final 10 minutes of trading. The drop is believed to have been caused by a number of index arbitrage deals, involving 100 index stocks, which were carried out by one market-making firm - understood to be Kleinwort Benson.

"We're happy with the trade in the index arb but then it altered 11 stock prices beyond what we were calling this confidence level." an Exchange spokesman said. "As we stated we would do because of the importance of end-of-year prices, we've restated the 11 closing prices."

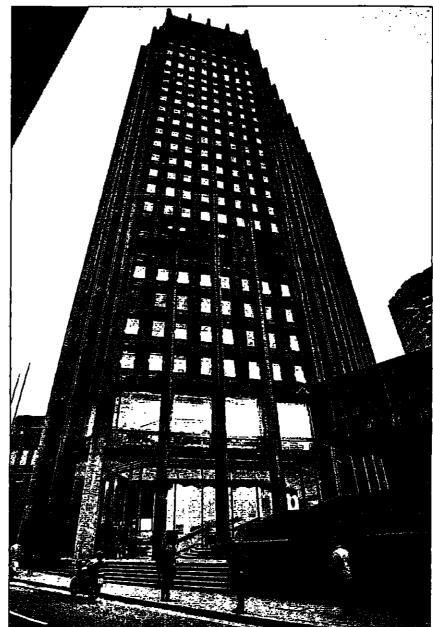
The end-of-year prices are especially important for fund managers because the performance of their share portfolios - and their fees - can be affected by the slightest changes in the index.

Early morning and late afternoon illiquidity in the new electronic order book is the key force behind the problem of "rogue" share prices. An exceptionally volatile move in any stock will result in its closing price being disregarded when the FTSE 100 is calculated. This happened in November when two JP Morgan traders tried to push down the level of the FTSE 100.

The two sold a number of bundles of pharmaceutical stocks in the late afternoon. The last bundle of stocks they sold was matched with a "buy" order that, because of market illiquidity, was priced substantially lower than might be expected. This pushed down both the closing level of the stocks -SmithKline Beecham and Glazo Wellcome - as well as the closing level of the FTSE 100. The traders subsequently lost their jobs and earned their employer, JP Morgan, a record £350,000 fine from the Exchange.

Meanwhile, the Stock Exchange said 1997 was a record year with both the value and volume of equity business reaching their highest ever levels both for UK shares and international equities. The number of bargains transacted in UK shares rose 21 per cent to 13.3 million and the value of shares traded rose 36 per cent to £1,008bn. The demutualisation of the Halifax, Woolwich, Alliance & Leicester and Northern Rock building societies and the Norwich Union insurance company created 17 million new shareholders and added roughly 3 per cent to turnover during the year.

The main market welcomed 134 new UK issues and 40 overseas listings but they were cancelled out by mergers and takeovers, and the number of shares listed actually fell from 2.704 to 2.685. In spite of a few casualties the AIM market added 107 new firms, taking the total to more than 300.



New year, new price: The Exchange revised prices for II shares Photograph: PA

### **OFT links Bauer to** Reed sale

Mystery surrounded the future of IPC, the consumer magazine business put up for sale by Reed Elsevier, yesterday when the Office of Fair Trading (OFT) appeared to suggest that Heinrich Bauer, the German publishing group, had won the bidding war.

In a statement which was announced to the Stock Exchange after the market closed, the OFT invited comments on the proposed acquisition of IPC by H Bauer Publishing, Heinrich Bauer's UK subsidiary. The OFT said representations would have to be made by 14 January.

Similar statements from the OFT are a daily routine. However, they are normally only released several days after an acquisition has been officially announced. Reed has yet to make any statement about the

The privately owned German company publishes a wide range of magazines and books across Europe. In the UK, the group is best known for its consumer titles which include Bella, Take a Break, That's Life and TV Quick.

Neither Reed Elsevier or Heinrich Bauer could be reached for comment. Earlier, a Reed spokeswoman would only say that the group was hoping to announce the winning bid for IPC "very shortly".

Speculation about the bidding for IPC, which publishes magazines including Loaded, Country Life and Woman's Own, has been intense. IPC is understood to have attracted interest from a large number of industry players. But many pulled out when it became clear that Reed wanted a high price for the business. Originally brokers expected IPC, which is forecast to generate sales of £350m this year, to fetch no more than £750m.

Weekend reports suggested CINven, the venture capital group, was preparing a management buyout bid worth £900m. Such a deal would be attractive for Reed, because it would not attract scrutiny from the competition authorities as a trade sale might. That would allow Reed, which is currently merging with Dutch publishing giant Wolters Kluwer, to speed up the disposal.

Nevertheless Bertelsmann, the German media giant, and Emap, the magazine publisher, are still believed to be in the frame. This is the first time, however, that Hamburg-based Heinrich Bauer has been linked with IPC.

- Peter Thal Larsen

### Ladbroke tipped to buy Coral bookmakers from Bass

Ladbroke, the hotels group, yesterday emerged as the favourite to buy the Coral chain of bookmakers from Bass, the brewing to retail giant that is going through a big disposal programme. Confirmation of the deal, which could be worth as much

as £500m, is expected in the next few days. The deal would make Ladbroke a giant in the betting shop industry with a network of more than 2,800 shops, a massive expansion from its current portfolio of 1,925. The size of the enlarged empire would

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Mergers Commission almost inevitable. But industry experts believe Ladbroke could win approval for the deal by selling some of its shops. One potential buyer would be the Tote, which is keen to expand.

Ladbroke would be almost double the size of the William Hill chain, which has 1,530 shops, and would dwarf the remaining rivals - Stanley, which has 567, Tote with 212, Jack Brown with 112, Done Bros' 95 and Coomes' 80. Ladbroke also bought the 114-strong AR Dennis chain of bookmake a referral to the Monopolies and makers for £31.3m last January.

Bass, in effect, put the 930-strong chain up for sale in September, when it lost out in the battle for William Hill, the rival bookmaker. Nomura, the Japanese bank which won the bidding for William Hill, had previously been favourite to buy Coral because of the obvious cost savings of putting the two businesses together.

However, Nomura is understood to have dropped out of the bidding for Coral several

If Coral is sold for 16 times 1997 operating profits - the same multiple as in the

£700m William Hill deal - that would price the business at between £400m and £500m. Spokesmen for both Bass and Ladbroke

declined to comment on the news, saying they never commented on market rumours. Bass shares gained 11.5p to close at 944.5p. while Ladbroke shares eased 2,25p to 264p.

The news comes at the end of a heetic month for Bass. Just a few weeks ago the group sold its Gala bingo business for £279. disposed of 1.400 pubs for £564m, and launched an £850m share buy-back. Nevertheless, at the time of the announcement

Liffe Financial Futures

analysts calculated that the company could comfortably spend £1bn on acquisitions. The Coral sale would take that war chest to at least £1.5bn. Bass, which is chaired by Sir Ian Prosser, is understood to be looking to buy an international hotel chain to increase its presence in Europe or Asia.

Targets could include Granada's Meridien or Saison's InterContinental chain. But analysts have expressed concern that Bass might end up overpaying for any acquisitions, as it has so much eash to spare.

- Peter Thal Larsen

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Ener, Brent Cru IPE Last fet %5 Ms %7 Apr %8  Com Index Agnicultur Agnicultur	gy ude(\$ Chg	barrel Vol 367: 347: 464 dity Base d 1970 = 10	ا Gas الكور الم الكور الكور الكور الكور الكور الم المور الم المور المور المور الم الم المور المور المور المور المور المور الم و المور الم المور الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و الم و اص و اص و اص و الم و الم و الم و الم و اص و الم و اص و و الم و الم و اص و اص او اص او اص او اص او اص اص او اص او اص او اص او اص و اص و اص و اص او اص او اص او اص او اص	oil(\$ tonne Close Chg 6597 100 6590 100 6590 100 Last 175.77 22738	() Wi Vol NYI 1617 Jan 1639 Fer 425 Wa 400 Che 022 1133	Fi Crude M Last 15.3 175 175 1930 oldman 3 %	(S/barn Che The the the Sachs the	Fuel Production of the control of th	z 5:00pm zots(S/tonne) CIF NW Eur e 95 77500 a 18300 (2.5%s) 76(e) ac 5:20pm 
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Industria	l Metals						
LIME (S/tonne)	Cash	Chg	3 111	enth	Chg	LIME stox	sks Chg
Alumnum HG	1523.5 1524.5	000	1546	547	0	624800	-675
Alumnum Alky	1380 1385	0.00	1398	1400	0	42900	-140
Copper A	1712 1713 546 547	000	1740 554	1741 555	0	335025 π625	2300 -50
Lead Nackel	5985 5990	000	6075	6080	ŏ	66240	-12
Tin	545 5425	000	5440	5445	ŏ	12950	100
Znc	10995 1100.5	000	1121	1122	ō	491600	-175
Precious	Metals						
pm flx/S per oz	Den .	fix/€ pe	IF ÖZ		Coins (	S)	
	lays Year's		Days	Year's chg	(	~1	Year's chg
Platenum 363.00	-0.50 -6.50 Plan		920 220		Krugirand		-79.75
Palladium 20200		<b>80</b> tum 12		53.75	Sovs	67.96	
	-0.21 1.20 Silve	er .	362 -011	080	Nobles	35605	
Gold 290.20	-285 -7905				Maple Le	ad 303.15	-78.55
Agricultu	ıral					* 20	5:30pm
Cocoa	Coffee	Barley		Poteto	25	Lge Po	otatoes
LIFFE (Monne	LIFFE Stonne	LIFFE	Channe		Ω/sonne	ATA .	\$/25k lig
Mar98 108200	Jansé 17720	Jan98	74.50	Mar98	9200	A Sec	67450
May 98 110000	Mar98 1732.00	Mar38	7750	Apr98	112.00	Apr98	679.00
Jul98 111900	May98 1712.00	Мау9В	7850	May98	122.00	Jung8	686.00
Vol: 1567	Vot 2759	Vol:	8	Volt	16	Vol:	205070
White Sugar*	Freight	Wheat		Com*		Soya B	
LIFFE \$-torne	LIFFE SOMOLPI	LIFFE	Storne		ents/bshi		/Sk bshie
Mar98 30860	Jan98 121000)	Jan98	8050	Mar98	265.75	Jan98	
May98 31210	Feb98 1225.00	Mar98	83.50	May98	272.50	War98	3120
Aug98 31440 Vol: 141	Apr98 1275.00 Vol: 17	May98	8550	Jul98 Vot:	277.75 140010	May98 Vol:	3450 251
VOI: 141	Vol: 17	Vol:	44	ADE	140010	MOT.	Ø1
Other So	fts					41	5:30pm
Feb Live Cartie	(CME) \$/40k lb		Mar Wh				98000
Feb Pork Bettes		5050				Y/ 5k #g	81.70
Mar Orange Juic		83.55	Mer Co		(CTN)	S/50k lb	67.16
Feb Milk	(CSC) \$/504 b	14.33	Feb Cru				2074.00
Mer Oats Mer Flex	(CBT) S/5k bsh	14950		ya Oil		S/E0k Ib	25.27
ME FEX	(WCE) 5/20 tn	34BD0	Jan Wo	uwen Ya	m (ICM)	\$/500kg	125500

Kunwatt		1017 .	0.3050	Turkey	338475 60411	204550 36725	www.bloon	nherg.co			Source:	Bloom	berg	Livestock Prec Metals	1970 = 100 1973 = 100	173.74 387.68	004 -480	002 1 -122 4	9103 63.54	-906 -1637	Mer Oats Mer Flex	(CBT) \$/5k bs (WCE) \$/20 to			(CBT) S/604 (TCM) S/500	
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All Govern 4 Battle Bri Tek M71 378	igo Lane, L	endon SE	1 2HR	High Income in Managed incom	c · 50.79	(1290)F 51,00 7,10 50,92 7,10 50,23 4,50 50,05 0,50	Euron Gwith Dateb Income	37720 4 7213	7693 419	Un Recover		138,30 1393 180,50 ≠0.5	17. 08	Balance: E-dance: Acc	58.7 13400	5123( 178	8 LüwmiPfode 9 Haghirri		℃.40 ( 10970	87490 019 11370 6847	Ecuty	196152 1161 19651 113: 35009 362: 11763 125:	B 163	Football Fund	19659 83.34	(Md) 000
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## 20/BUSINESS OUTLOOK

What's the outlook for the world and British economies this year? How are financial markets likely to react to the vicissitudes of world events? And how are our leading companies and industries going to respond to the twin challenges of globalisation and rapid technological change? Crystal-ball gazing is rarely a rewarding endeavour, but it is possible with reasonable precision to examine the pressures and strains at work in commerce and business, and from that to form a view of the future. The Independent's business writers assess below and opposite what 1998 has in store.



### Is it deflation or inflation we should fear most in 1998?

famous Chinese curse says. Unfortunately, it seems this year to have been cast on China's own region, Asia Pacific, which has been condemned by the world's capital markets to two to three years of severe belt tightening and structural reform.

The coming year will see the impact American of the financial crisis hitting the people on the streets or in the fields. A recent Oxfam report warned of the effect the loss of jobs in construction across the region would have on rural poverty, given the numbers who depend on money sent back from family members working in the cities. Politicians will be caught between the rock of popular discontent and the hard place of IMF conditions.

Growth forecasts for Asia have been slashed. For example, IBJ is predicting just HSBC puts growth for South-east Asia, since March by now. excluding Japan and China. at just 2.1 per cent. It sees GDP falling by 1.5 per cent in South Korea and 3 per cent in Thailand, the two worst afflicted countries.

It will therefore be a year when politicians' determination to go ahead with structural economic reforms will be put to the test. Will the South-east Asian countries dismantle their crony capitalism to satisfy the IMF?

And will Japan implement the root and branch change in financial and other services that will allow its transition to a modern service economy? As Stephen Hannah, chief economist at IBJ in London, says: "It's crunch time." It is hard to see, in these circumstances, how there can be any significant recovery in equity markets, either in Japan or elsewhere in the region. Deregulation of the protected construction, service and financial sectors may provide Japan with a way out of its present downward deflationary spiral.

but the road is a long and hard one. Moreover, apart from the likes of big multinationals such as Sony, which are already fully integrated in the global market, most Japanese stocks are still wildly

something more like normal levels before they can start to rise again. The outlook for the Japanese stock market therefore continues to look bleak.

### optimism

There could scarcely be a greater contrast between the storm clouds over Asia and the sunny optimism brightening US economic prospects. Although US growth is expected to slow in 1998 from something near 4 per cent in 1997, even this is taken as a good sign by the Pollyannas. Why, if not for the weakness in Asian mar- on the other side would be a shift in senkets, the Federal Reserve would certainly 1 per cent GDP growth in Japan, while have raised interest rates for the first time view. That would be good for bonds, but

> While it is correct to argue that the economic spill over from the Asian crisis to mean the markets will not react to the fear. this year, for on I January 1999 the parthe US and Europe is likely to be small, it is still too early to accept the truth of the "new paradigm" so beloved by one camp of US commentators. They argue that the technological revolution and strong US position in key markets means growth can continue well above trend vithout triggering inflation.

Certainly, unemployment has fallen impressively with only a modest pick up in pay pressures. But the US (and UK) are at exactly that stage of the business cycle where false miracles are spotted. Normally growth then slows as inflation picks up. This time next year it will be clearer how far the "paradigm" has changed.

What of the more pessimistic camp? According to this outlook, the Asian crisis could spark global deflation. Certainly, there are some eery parallels, particularly in the competitive devaluations going on throughout the Far East, between the situation now and that of the late 1920s. According to this theory, the shock to growth in the region, and its huge currency devaluations, will hit exports from OECD overvalued compared with the rest of the countries and boost their imports from developed world, even at present de- Asia. At its most extreme, the effect of this

a global scale - not just in Asia, but in the US too. In those circumstances there would also be a marked fall off in consumption. On balance, however, this would seem an unlikely scenario. The buoyant US economy is probably still too insular and big for this to be a likely outcome.

So is there anything on the horizon that might cause a serious setback on Wall Street, aside from the inevitable shortterm volatility if the new year brings fresh turmoil in the Far East? The biggest risk is probably not so much that of deflation as the possibility that inflationary signals cause a sharp change in sentiment about the Fed's interest rate policy. That would hit both Treasuries and equities. The risk No derailment of timent in favour of the global deflation very bad for equities. There is little evidence for this view yet, but that does not

### Brakes on the **British economy**

All the economists surveyed each month by the Treasury agree that growth in the at what bilateral exchange rates their cur-UK will slow in 1998. They all agree about rencies are to be tied. Conversion rates the ways it will come about, too. Exports will turn down as the effect of the strong cember. pound finally bites, and markets in Asia and the US slow. The consumer boom will continue to ebb, thanks to the five increases in interest rates - with perhaps one or two more rises to come.

But the forecasters could not disagree more about the scale of this slowdown. Predictions for growth in 1998 range from 1.5 per cent to 3.6 per cent, and for argues that it would take an unexpected the target measure of inflation from 2 per cent to 4 per cent.

degree of momentum in the economy. Are personal incomes rising fast enough. thanks to the tight jobs market, to keep when you're hosting the World Cup." consumer spending robust? Are British

"May you live in interesting times," the pressed levels. They will have to fall to might be to cause investment to dry up on exporters more competitive than some (eared? But it is also a disagreement about how sharply the Bank of England would be prepared to step on the brakes again to keep inflation on target.

One thing seems certain. Whether the economy slows of its own accord in the next year, or the Bank imposes the slowdown, it will be a less buoyant year than 1997. Profits forecasts are, nevertheless, not much more subdued than the 6-7 per cent increase expected for 1997. As ever, the main influence on the FTSE 100 will be which way Wall Street goes in the next 12 months.

### **EMU** train

There are plenty of key dates for the launch of the single currency coming up Wall Street looks harder to call than ever. ticipating currencies are locked together irrevocably.

Under the UK Presidency of the European Union, in March the European Monetary Institute and the European Commission will formally report on which countries have qualified. A special summit on 1-3 May will decide who joins and to the euro will be formally set on 31 De-

It seems all but certain that there will be 11 members - excluding the UK but including Italy. If Germany had decided to set its face against Italian membership, the politicking would have had to start already. Economists see little chance of any surprises on either membership or timing. Alison Cottrell of Paine Webber severe economic downturn in Germany or France, causing them to miss the 3 per cent This is partly a disagreement about the of GDP target for the government budget deficit, to delay the start. And, as she notes: "It's difficult to have a recession

The stock market will continue last year's surge in the new year with a

Standard Life

Kleinwort Benson

Morgan Stanley

NatWest Markets

Legal & General

rise of more than 10 per cent by the end of 1998, according to some of the City's leading forecasters and fund managers. Ken Forman, global strategist with Standard Life, looks to sustained growth from the banking

and insurance sectors, along with utility stocks, the main drivers of share price growth. But his 5,800 forecast for the 100 share index will see much of the increase in the second half of the year, with January and February overshadowed by turmoil in the Far East.

"Financials are still going to be strong, with more industry restructuring. These companies still have surplus capital which they need to use profitably," he said.

At best, the economy will see a classic soft landing, says Morgan Stanley's economics team, which sees UK shares remaining better value than the rest of Europe. "We would remain overweight in UK equities, because of strong company balance sheets and continued strong profits growth."

The spurt in buy-backs, mergers and acquisitions is another factor in the FTSE's performance, according to Dresdner Kleinwort Benson's

6.25 3.5-4\* \*GDP consensus forecast for full year 1997

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PREDICTIONS FOR THE END OF 1998

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for a sharp slowdown in economic growth will dampen activity. Jeremy Batstone, of NatWest Stockbrokers, says financial companies will help drive the market to 5,600. An optimistic Gareth Evans, of Nikko, believes it is not impossible for the index to

break 6,000. Richard Jeffrey, of broker Charterhouse, says the index will end at the 5.200 mark because uncertainty will drive it down as the state of the domestic economy and the influence of overseas markets take their toll.

For Michael Hughes, group economic adviser to BZW, the key question is whether 1998 will see renewed interest in emerging markets in the Far East, as returns slow from fast growing hi-tech industries in the West. "The turbulence in Asia has taken some markets there down to the stage where they offer genuine value for the first time in 15 years," he says.

Such tips should be taken with a large helping of salt. Last year most commentators expected at best a weak outlook for shares. In the event, the 100 index soared by more

– Chris Godsmark

### **TELECOMS**

### Competition set to intensify as Europe rings in changes

It must seem hard to believe mass in the market, make David Oertle, chief executive of that the pace of activity and change this year in the telecommunications industry can match the hectic level of 1997, which saw some massive mergers and acquisitions in the US and some ambitious attempts at crossborder consolidation. But if anything, things look set to open to full-blooded competition throughout the European Union from today.

Competition has been a reality in Britain since the market was opened up fully in 1991, but seven years on BT has just over 90 per cent of residential exchange lines. This

greater inroads into BT's nearmonopoly.

Oftel, the watchdog, recently predicted BT's share of residential phone lines would fall to 70 per cent by 2000. For consumers, this means even more generous price cuts from BT and the cable companies. Mobile opaccelerate yet further, with the erators are also reducing their market for telecoms thrown tariffs, with signs that the last quarter of 1997 will reverse recent industry gloom and show record subscriber growth.

Mark Lambert, from Merrill Lynch, says: "BT will feel the pinch from competitors more in 1998 than it ever has done. The largely managed to maintain its depth and breadth of competidominant market position, with tion will intensify by the

For business customers cutseems about to change as the throat competition is already a cable operators, who have for reality, with BT's market share so long fallen short of critical down to around two-thirds. Cruickshank as telecoms regu-

Esprit Telecom, the rapidly growing Reading-based business phones company, predicts BT's share of the company phone market will fall even faster. 'We've grown our business by 80 per cent over two years and that kind of substantial growth shows no sign of slowing.

BT's challenge is to prevent the decline in its UK customer base turning into a rout, while building a strong foothold in emerging European markets. In France and Germany BT looks well placed to become a leading rival to the monopolists, but disputes over the cost of access to incumbent operators' networks to buy one or more smaller could slow competition. BT is unlikely to see significant profits in continental Europe until well into the next millennium.

The departure of Don

lator at the end of March is un- British manufacturers will be from BTR, underperformed by likely to herald a shift in policy. But Oftel's advice would be important for two big decisions expected from Labour.

BT is likely to be cleared to run entertainment programmes down its phone lines, though whether it still wants to offer such a service is unclear. Meanwhile, all eyes will remain on BT's attempts to find a new US partner to replace MCI, after the two companies' merger was trumped by a \$40bn bid from WorldCom.

Options for BT include another large scale merger with a US giant such as GTE, a deal emerging groups, or an alliance stopping short of an equity stake. More trips to the States are in prospect for BT

### **INDUSTRY**

### Exporters look to break free from the currency squeeze

hoping that the next 12 months can only get better, after a turbulent year dominated by the impact of the strong pound. The 13 per cent surge in the value of sterling against the German mark last year severely hit exporters to continental Europe and all the signs are that the painful squeeze on profit margins will continue.

Even firms with no major overseas markets felt the pressure in 1997 as cheaper imports flooded in while large engineers with far-flung global interests suffered when translating their profits into sterling.

The result was that share prices fell behind. The FTSE General Industrials index lagged the broader market by 18 per cent while the unloved Diversified Industrials sector, currency risks. Similarly, busi-- Chris Godsmark helped by two profit warnings

over 30 per cent.

Although the pound may weaken slightly during 1998. most forecasters predict it is unlikely to give up all the gains it made in 1997. Most economists are expecting further interest rate rises to curb inflation, with base rates unlikely to drop back until the second half of 1998. Higher rates will inevitably con-

tinue to support sterling. Those hardest hit by the strong pound will remain groups such as British Steel. which price products in German marks on world markets. British Steel has accelerated the contraction of its workforce to cut costs, but the longer the strong pound continues, the harder and more costly it becomes for companies to hedge against nesses which have long-term

Europe, such as Laird, the car parts supplier, look vulnerable.

Another question mark hangs over demand from the home market, with some forecasters predicting that the consumer boom will begin to fade as the stream of building society windfall payouts dries up. Though any impact on manufacturers would be gradual, the first signs could come in the car market, which is unlikely to grow much further than the 2.1

million sales due for 1997. Elsewhere, manufacturers will become increasingly preoccupied with consolidation. European defence contractors and their suppliers will contemplate moves to create a single European giant to challenge the US.

British Aerospace and GEC are ready to get together with their counterparts in Germany and Italy to form large defence

supply contracts in continental groupings that can compete on a global scale. But a question mark remains about the attitude of the French government. If it continues to resist deals involving Thomson, the defence electronics group, British defence contractors may decide to look elsewhere - possibly even

the US - for tie-ups. The steady streams of bids will continue, as globalisation becomes the by-word in the metal-bashing sector. As the recent offers for T&N, Morris Ashby and Menvier-Swain show, foreign predators have been keen to buy UK manufacturers as a way to build up their positions in Europe Meanwhile, large British engineers like Siebe and TI are likely to pursue strategic acquisitions in the Far East and Latin America.

-- Peter Thal Larsen and Chris Godsmark

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### BANKING

### Established banks must adapt, merge or die

Consolidation, both on a or perhaps a deal with a conti- few months of the year. national and cross-border ba- nental rival sis, will again be the dominant theme of the year for the financial services industry. Information technology and the coming of the single European currency promise a action at the banks that grabbed new age of low-cost banking and other forms of financial service as national frontiers and other barriers to entry break

For most established banks a question of "adapt and compere, merge, or die".

The merger wave which swept through investment banking towards the end of last year looks set to continue well into he\_new year. The ones to watch are second-tier continental banks with global ambias. Commerzbank and aribas, for example.

For the likes of Comerzbank, options include a link-up with a US firm looking for a European leg, such as Donaldson Lufkin & Jenrette,

A Commerzbank/Deutsche Bank merger perhaps? Unlikely, say the analysts, but stranger things have happened. Neither is it necessarily the end of the the headlines in 1997. UBS and SBC remain relatively weak in the US, and 1998 could see the two Swiss banking giants hitting the acquisition trail again.

The demise of the medium and savings organisations it is sized, independent British investment bank is another feature of 1997 set to re-emerge in 1998. Schroders, Robert Fleming, Rothschilds and Lazards will all be under the spotlight.

> Look out for a raft of disappointing financial results as banks own up to having had derivatives in last autumn's volatile markets. JP Morgan and the few to admit to being caught out by recent gyrations of the financial markets. More are bound to follow suit in the first

Watch out too for a raft of cross financial services mergers. IT is blurring previously distinct financial products and channels of distribution as never before. To help cover the costs of expensive branch networks and defend present rates of return, traditional high street banks will step up their efforts to diversify into other financial products, such as life assurance. A deal between Barclays and Legal & General was one of the many merger rumours doing the rounds in 1997. It is a story that's

The Financial Services Authority, bringing together previously distinct financial regulators and supervisors under one roof, will come into its their fingers burned by equity own this year. The creation of such a monstrous bureaucracy carries obvious dangers, though Chase Manhattan are among most commentators agree that the approach is fundamentally sound. All the same, the scope

likely to come around again.

### UTILITIES

### Regulatory review may prove damp squib

The big event of the year for electricity watchdogs, Ofgas utilities should be New Labour's promised reform of the way electricity and water companies are regulated. In the end, however, this may prove something of a damp squib.

While in opposition Labour made political capital out of the apparently excessive profits of the privatised utilities and promised to do something about them once returned to office. The review of regulation launched by Margaret Beckett, President of the Board of Trade,

emerges around February. The more radical ideas canvassed before the election, such as profit-sharing to cream off annual excess earnings, have almost certainly been ditched. But other initiatives promise to herald a limited shake-up of the

One idea which has found

and Offer, in a move which will probably see the departure of Clare Spottiswoode, the gas regulator, when her five-year contract expires in October. Professor Stephen Littlechild, the electricity regulator, is unlikely to get the job of "super regulator". The review will also streamline and toughen consumer representation and iron our differences between regu-

Industry executives hope the review will settle the thorny issue of whether power generators can buy regional electricity companies (RECs), allowing PowerGen to bid for all or part of Midlands Electricity and giving the green light to mergers between RECs...

lators' powers across sectors.

mount their predicts system inherited from the Tories. headlines in 1997, with the for water companies in 2000. landmark British Gas demerger Shareholders have been warned.

electricity promises to dominate in 1998. By the end of January Professor Littlechild will almost certainly have announced a delay to the start of domestic competition.

A six month postponement from April to September looks increasingly likely. Tony Boorman, head of competition at Offer, says: "People have always understood that there were risks with the time-scale ... The official line is that April looks very difficult."

Meanwhile Offer will give the first word on the size of price cuts to be levied on the RECs' distribution businesses in 2000, with a big one-off plunge in revenues a near certainty. And by the autumn, Ian Byatt, the water regulator, will have decided on If gas was rarely out of the the size of the price reduction



Facing a year of change: Barclays' chief executive, Martin Taylor, might have a role in a merger story

### **MEDIA**

### Consumers to be offered a legion of digital choices

Digital will be the story of the year in 1998. Television goes digital in three ways next year, with the launch of digital-terrestrial, satellite and cable platform. The arrival of the new technology has dented media company share prices in 1997. As the City worries. groups such as Carlton Communications and BSkyB are having to spend heavily on digital long before there's any sign of return.

The first digital radio licences are up for grabs this year as well. Elsewhere, nonbroadcast groups such as Reed Elsevier will be going digital too as they continue the transition from hardcopy to electronic media.

Currency problems will keep effecting companies like Reuters, Reed and EMI, which bave large overseas earnings. Advertising is another uncertainty. While next year's World Cup is likely to create demand for advertising, recruitment ads may see a downturn which would effect, among others, regional newspaper groups.

Consolidation in TV has been fast and furious in 1997. ITV companies like Ulster Television and Scottish Media Group could get snapped up next year but the feeding frenzy is largely over. Similarly, in the regional press the big takeovers are mostly complete - once United News & Media secures the sale of its regional division - but titles will be swapped as the dominant players refine their portfolios.

Other issues to watch out for include the renewal of ITV licences. Channel Three companies will decide in 1998 when they want to renew: the first new licences take effect from 1st January 1999, "Unbundling" will also rear its head. The Independent Television Commission, the television watchdog, could force BSkyB to offer its premium channels separated from its basic channels.

Regulators may also move against Rupert Murdoch's newspaper interests, which have been accused of "predatory pricing". Several amendments have been tabled to the Competition Bill which would make actions for unfair predatory pricing easier to bring.

The Internet continues to promise much commercially but deliver little. None the less, all media players will be investing heavily in anticipation that sometime soon, maybe this year, maybe next, the transition from promise to reality will take place.

Industry players are still unclear as to where the real value in the media is going to lie. Is it going to be with the producers of entertainment, news and sport, or is it going to be with the distributors of product, or will the greatest value lie with those who are able to bring about a winning combination of the two? Whatever the answer. more look destined to get it wrong than right.

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#### es, of Nikko, Deures: Stores face a year of belt se, says the res wil tightening **क्यों संस्थ**र त देखता है है

There is little doubt that 1998 will be a tougher year on the high street. After last year's benign conditions, with consumerispending boosted by building society windfalls, rising house prices and low interest rates, retailers will be looking ahead with some trepidation.

The windfalls have been either spent or saved, interest wher genuine will rate rises are starting to bite and the engine of house price rises looks to have run out of steam.

The evidence of a slowdown is with us already. November sales were sluggish and Christmas trading has been patchy, with profits warnings from Oasis, the fashion retailer and Mulberry, the luxury goods group.

The opening of two big shopping centres at Cribbs Causeway near Bristol and Trafford Park in Manchester will add further capacity to the sector at the wrong point in the cycle.

Another trends will be the urge to demerge. Sears will spin off Selfridges. WH Smith will demerge Waterstone's and the Debenhams demerger from Burton will be finalised later this month. The Jaeger and Viyella retail businesses are also in the process of being demerged from Coars Vivella. This may raise the possibility of corporate activity, particularly in department stores.

The World Cup in France in June should provide a boost from sports retailers. The planned flotation of Sports Division could spark a battle company car perks like free royal with JJB sports.

: Technology will also make its mark on the sector this year with the launch of digital television. Expect great fanfare but a slow start to consumer buying.

 And finally, the new issues market will be interesting, given the sector's recent wobbles. Monsoon, the women's fashion retailer, will provide the first test.

### **BIOTECH**

### Deals with big drugs players will be the key

Investors in biotech companies will be looking forward to a strong recovery after 1997, which was certainly a year to forget. Strangely, this contrasted sharply with the performance of the big pharmaceutical stocks, most of which advanced strongly in the hope of more consolidation.

British Biotech, Celltech

and Scotia all reported setbacks for some of their most important products, and Biocompatibles fell from grace after failing to secure its relationship with Johnson & Johnson of the US. Perhaps fittingly, the year ended with the departure of David Horrobin, chief executive of Scotia and one of the industry's most colourful characters, whose failure in commercialising the group's

prices in the sector fell an average 46 per cent from their highs in a rising market. This year can hardly be worse.

The flow of good news should improve, with Chiroscience expected to announce European approval in the first half for its long-acting anaesthetic, Levobupivacaine and a marketing partner for the drug. British Biotech is expected in April to launch its first product,

Lexipafant for pancreatitis. However, the key to sentiment will be deals with big pharmaceutical companies. These should become more frequent as the heavyweights consolidate, focus their financial might on marketing and increasingly rely on young biotechs to supply them with science forced him out of Scotia cutting-edge ideas. Despite its present travails, Biocompatibles. and back into the laboratory.

Small wonder that share for instance, believes that future growth will come as much from this area as any other.

> More deals might also encourage investors to return to the sector after the hammering many of the biotechs, took in 1997. That, in turn, would spark another wave of flotations - and there are plenty waiting in the wings - which would have the salutary effect of broadening investor choice.

It is also worth noting that biotech and pharmaceutical stocks are not sensitive to troubles in Asia or slowing economic growth at home.

But then, as 1997 has more than amply demonstrated. biotech is a sector for those with deep pockets and a long-term vision, not the short-term horizons more normally associated with quoted stock markets. Sameena Ahmad

### **ACCOUNTANTS**

#### Big Six imitate their clients in the urge to merge

consulting firms in the throes of jumping on a bandwagon that has already rolled through banking and other sectors. As with these other industries, the drivers are said to be the general. globalisation of business and the need to achieve economies of scale, especially when investing

in emerging markets.

But the proposed deals to create out of Coopers & Lybrand and Price Waterhouse on the one hand and KPMG and Ernst & Young on the other. two new combined entities each higger than the present biggest, Andersen Worldwide, also mark something of a coming of age for these large international firms. Though they cling to the idea of being partnerships, they have already aped their clients in such ways as having executive management teams, setting stringent performance targets and – in a few cases - publishing financial details about themselves.

Moreover, they talk less about their profession than about their industry. If the two planned mergers are successful that process will only continue at a quicker pace. There is no way that a firm with upwards of \$500 partners and \$13bn-odd in annual revenues - as would he the case with the Coopers-PW deal - is a partnership in anything but name.

All eyes will be on how successful the big players are in persuading regulators in the US. Europe and Japan that their merger plans will not act against the public interest. As Nick Land, UK senior partner of Ernst & Young, points out, this is not an all-or-nothing situation.

Even if the mergers are not

In going for mega-mergers, the Firms will seek to achieve their four Big Six accounting and aims through other means, perhaps even merging in some marriage preparations are parts of the world but not others And though commentators have worried about the concentration of big audits in few hands, it is clear that the protagonists are not losing sleep

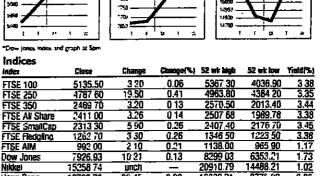
on this score. Andersen and Deloitte & Touche, the two Big Six firms not so far involved in merger talks, are confident of picking up clients and staff from rivals attempting to merge. Firms in the so-called second tier and beyond are also likely to continue to consolidate in the hope of being better able to compete for some of the scraps left over from the Big Six's gnawings.

Running parallel with the urge to merge is the urge to break up. The Andersen organisation - despite continuing to grow at close on 20 per cent a year ~ spent much of 1997 trying to resolve the bitter row between its core accounting arm. Arthur Andersen, and Andersen Consulting, the specialist consulting business particularly known for hig IT projects that was set up in 1989.

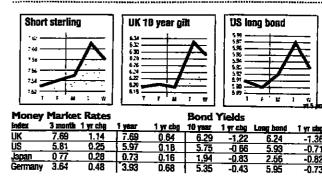
The dispute centres on the consulting arm's claim that the other business has been competing in its area of business despite receiving a £100m-a-year subsidy from its sister operation. Just before Christmas, the AC partners stunned their colleagues in the rest of the business by calling for an arbitrator to settle the issue. There is a certain irony-and

not a little bubris - in the fact that just as other firms are following Andersen's lead in seeking to create a single global firm spanning all areas of professional services, the role model looks like falling apart. And waved through, the accountancy that happens, who knows wha alliances might spring up.

STOCK MARKETS



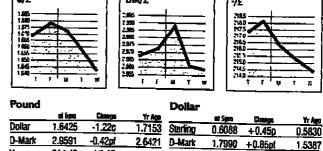
#### INTEREST RATES



#### MAIN PRICE CHANGES

Rises	Price (p)	Chg (p)	% Chips	Falls	Proces (p)	Cbg (pi	% Chge
Signet	30.00	1.25	4,35	LucasVarity	215.00	-5.75	-2.60
Royal Bk Scot	773.00	29.00	3.90	BG	274.00	-6 75	-2.40
Wimpey	106.00	3.50	3.41	Nycomed Amer	2150.00	-52 00	-2.36
NFC	157.50	5.00	3.41	GKN	1247.00	-28 00	-2 20

#### CURRENCIES



96.10 \$ Index

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#### -0.80 OTHER INDICATORS

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### TRANSPORT

### Prescott to set pace for rail and bus firms

The most important event of the year for Britain's road, rail, air and sea industries will be the publication in May by John Prescott, the Deputy Prime Minister, of the Government's integrated transport policy.

The accompanying white paper will almost certainly herald new measures aimed at curbing car use, such as road pricing and heavier taxation of parking. The moves could benefit the expanding bus and train transport groups such as Stagecoach, FirstBus, National Ex-

press Group and Go-Ahead. However, the flip side for businesses such as these could be much tighter regulation of their bus and rail activities. The Government has already hinted that it would like to - Nigel Cope bring the train leasing compa-

nies such as Porterbrook under the umbrella of the existing rail regulatory framework. There is also the possibility of the bus industry outside London being brought under direct regulator control

Another issue likely to be on the agenda is the ownership of London Underground, which Railtrack would very much like to get its hands on. The big City event of the

year will be the flotation of London and Continental Railways. the consortium selected to build and operate the high-speed Channel Tunnel rail link. LCR is seeking to raise £5.4bn, of which £1bn-£1.5bn will be through an equity issue around the middle of the year. Given the experience of the tunnel itself - two years late and 100 per cent over budget - it will not

With the ferry merger be-

be an easy issue to get away.

autumn with the two carriers and landing slots at Heathow.

tween P&O and Stena Sealink now finally approved, a move which should mean improved officiency and more stable pricing. 1998 might just be the year when Eurotunnel begins to make real operating profits before, of course, interest on its debt mountain. Although the debt has been halved, it still stands at £4bn.

Another merger which should finally see the light of day is the British Airways-American Airlines alliance, held up by regulatory investigations for 18 months. Assuming it finally gets clearance from Brussels and Washington in February, expect to see the alliance start up in the shorn of perhaps 250 take-off

world will not look the same at Michael Harrison - the end of 1998 as it does today.

### Amvescap steps into the limelight to end the year on a high

MARKET REPORT



DEREK PAIN

Amvescap, the least known group. The two became Footsie constituent, was one blue chip to end 1997 at a peak. Ignoring the kerfuffle in the final 10 minutes of trading the shares rose 16p to 523p, a far cry from the 207.5p seen in January.

The investment group, with a £3bn capitalisation, emerged from the shrouds of obscurity last month when, to the surprise of many, it made its way into the exclusive Footsie index, covering the nation's top 100 companies.

Despite its elevation it is unknown to many investors. Perhaps that is not surprising as it derives around 90 per cent of its income from the US and is based in Atlanta. It has adopted a low profile here.

The group was formed when Invesco, a British in-

390 325 Back (Perch 75 455 Chardell China (5 600 Coletal-Browler 25 64 Cormell Per 127 142 Darby Group Hei 12 Centre 13 Centre

Amvescap in March.

As usual in the shortened New Year's Eve session trading was thin; volume was 216.5 million shares. In early trading Footsie was up 50 points stated prices, ignored the last and stood 33.3 higher at midday. Ten minutes later, when the stock market closed, the calculation showed a mere under the old, quote-driven 1.5 gain. It was then adjusted system. to a 3.2 plus after the Stock Exchange had examined the final ten minutes of trading to

root out rogue trades. Humiliatingly, no less than double figures with General Accident (40p) the only price cut. Halifax was lifted by 28p and Sun Life & Provincial by

The many changes, which

calculations since the orderdriven system was introduced in October.

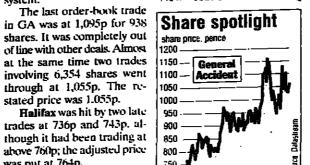
In effect, the Stock Exchange, in arriving at the reorder-book trade, even appearing to pay some attention to the final trades registered

The last order-book trade in GA was at 1,095p for 938 shares. It was completely out of line with other deals. Almost at the same time two trades 11 shares were adjusted; most involving 6,354 shares went of the changes went into through at 1,055p. The restated price was 1.055p. Halifax was hit by two late

> though it had been trading at above 760p; the adjusted price was put at 764p.

recalculations as suspicious. And it does not intend to conduct any investigation. The final ten minutes trading was. is happy that nothing untoward

occurred. Close attention was paid to New Year's Eve's closing



tion the accuracy of Footsie of the deals which forced the prices because it is the valua- shops chain to Ladbroke. Last tion day for many funds. With so many prices regarded as inaccurate there could be a anted pubs. sharp Footsie slump in the case for daily adjustments. Funds using quarterly valuait is claimed, due to basket tions will no doubt be clamtrades and the Stock Exchange ouring for price checks at the end of each quarter.

The order-driven farce has cast a shadow over a record year. Domestic and international equity turnover rose by 36 per cent and 67 per cent respectively.

of 5.135.5 compares with a 5,330.8 peak reached in October. In December Footsie rose more than 300.

The adjusted Footsie close

with a 29p gain to 773p.

Royal Bank of Scotland, one of the unadjusted shares, led Footsie shares yesterday

Bass, the brewer, rose concentrating on financial 11.5p to 944.5p, helped by talk services, at 35.5p, an effective

TAKING STOCK

month Bass agreed to sell its

bingo clubs chain and its ten-

Retailers scored some

As the Stock Exchange suf-

gains as the sales continued to

pull in customers. Kingfisher

fered order-driven discomfort

its tiny rival, Tradepoint, had

the misfortune to encounter

old-fashioned market pres-

sure, falling 10p to 51.5p, a low.

When order-driven trading

appeared and Tradepoint was .

enjoying the benefits of a cash

injection the shares touched

splitting the car dealership

from Culver saw the resultant

Wyndham Motor Group trade

at 113.5p with Culver, now

The latest demerger,

148.5p.

put on 15p at 848p.

Television producer Mike Mansfield has reduced his stake in showbiz group Galaxy Media, selling 30,000 shares at 110p against an unchanged 120p price on the backwater Seats market. He still has 13.63 per cent. Six months ago the shares hit a

African Gold Resources, an Australian-based explorer, arrived on the lightly regulated Ofex market. It has mineral prospects in Ghana and is seeking to expand. Its shares created little interest. holding at 5p, capitalising the company at £3.4m.

held at 235.5p. Analyst Philip Morrish at Nikko has lifted his estimates and sees profits increasing from £32m to £47m last year and reaching

vestmer AIM N	nt operation, acquired are bound to lead to charges Surp Management, a US of price rigging, call into ques- Exchan	ge does not regard any 0 J F M A N	it could sell its Coral betting	7.75p gain. shares a buy.
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### Sport in '98: the highlights and the lowdowns

### Hoddle: Cabbages or coronation lie in wait

The summer of 1998 promises to be a bumper one for offlicences, take-away restaurants. Relate and divorce lawyers. Yes, it's World Cup year.

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Paris may be lovely in the spring but the footballers of 32 countries are more interested in being there in July this year as the World Cup returns to France for the first time in 60

In the 33 days from 10 June, when Brazil open the tournament against Scotland at St-Denis, to the 17 July final in the same north Parisian suburb, 64 matches will played. The global television audience will break all records, new reputations will be forged and old ones broken. By the end of it Glenn Hoddle Sir Alf Ramsey as a footballing knight or Graham Taylor in the and his team will dominate the tabloid front pages.

The Football Association, and the French organisers, will be praying he will not be sharing them with England's fans. One hopes, for all Hoddle's faith, that they will be making well. Unfortunately nothing to strengthen foundations. Only short of the long-overdue government confiscation of passports from known offenders is likely to ensure a trouble-free tournament. This is unlikely, but should be remembered when the scapegoating starts.

There may be a dry-run for the security forces in Paris on 13 May, but Aston Villa's chances of progressing through a strong field to the Uefa Cup final seem slimmer than Chelsea's prospects of reaching the previous week's European Cup-Winners' Cup final in Stock-

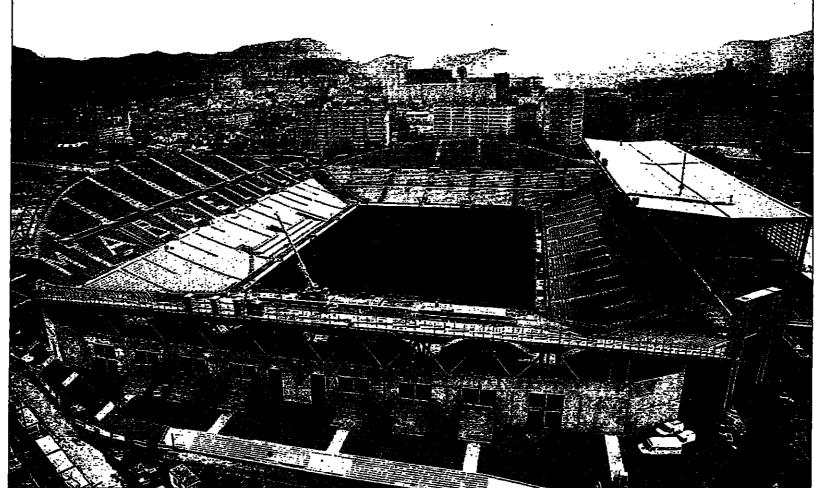
**FOOTBALL** BY GLENN MOORE

By then Alex Ferguson should have become the first manager to win three successive domestic titles. The prospect of emulating Sir Matt Busby, and steering the club to European Cup final success in the Amsterdam Arena on 20 May should also be beckoning.

Off the pitch money will, as ever, be the dominant issue as the game bickers on how to divide Sky TV's largesse and the fall-out from Bosman continues. The only certainty is that the wealthy clubs will get richer and the poorer ones nearer bankcould be either destined to join ruptcy. Some of the Nationwide League's latest proposals may seem outlandish but at least vegetable patch. Either way he David Sheepshanks, the League's chairman, is being both pro-active and working for the wider good of the game.

This is not as rare as might be imagined, but self-interest still dogs football. Football may be phenomenally popular, and the World Cup is sure to inflate more secular preparation as the boom, but now is the time when it is too late will some chairman realise this is one industry where putting your rivals out of business is bad for your wealth.

Predictions: Manchester United to win championship and reach European Cup final. Chelsea to win European Cup-Winners' Cup. Liverpool to win FA Cup. Brazil to win World Cup, England to reach final if Shearer, Ince, Campbell and Seaman fully fit, quarter-final defeat to Germany otherwise. Scotland to go out in first



England begin their World Cup campaign against Tunisia on 15 June at Marseilles' renovated Stade Vélodrome

### Captain courageous Atherton has the experience and talent to prove his critics wrong

Whatever else happens, 1998 will settle the arguments over Michael Atherton's position in the pecking order of England captains. He can be acknowledged already as one of the most stubborn and thickskinned: the coming months will determine whether he is remembered for more. By common consent the

West Indies are in disarray, to such an extent that England can look upon the tour that opens their year as their best chance since Colin Cowdrey's tourists

CRICKET BY JON CULLEY won 1-0 in 1968 of coming back from the Caribbean victorious. as the persuasive voices who talked Atherton down from the brink of resignation last August

Significantly, Atherton goes with a team that truly can be called his own. Nine of those travelling were with him on his first venture to the West Indies

will have pointed out.

four years ago, when he declared that he would pick young players and back them all the way. That policy has been blown off course a few times in the interim but here is a belated opportunity for those in whom he showed faith then - Hussain, Ramprakash, Caddick and Tutnell principal among them to prove his judgment correct. Should they succeed, so will have Atherton.

Naturally, the outcome of the five-Test series will colour man who decides his place in the mood of next summer. history, Alternatively, Donald

The realistic goal for British

tennis, to have contenders on

when England play South Africa in five Tests and Sri Lanka in one. In some ways, unless the signals prove to have been misleading, the South Africans represent a more potent challenge than the West Indies to the theory that England are on an upward curve. If Atherton comes home triumphant in April his reputation could be in ruins again by August and Allan Donald, rather than Brian Lara, might be the

may teach Adam Hollioake that a hard road lies ahead.

For Atherton, much depends on whether they can replace the injured Darren Gough adequately, and whether his supporting cast can overcome the one area of experience in which they are lacking; that of beating decent opposition. But my hunch is that he made the right decision to stay on.

Prediction: Vindication rather than vilification for Atherton: and at home a Nottinghamshire revival,

The emergence of Ruseds-

ki and Henman has embold-

ened the British game to risk a

new men's indoor tournament.

the \$815,000 (£540,000)

Guardian Direct Cup, to be

staged in a temporary stadium

in Battersea Park from 23 Feb-

Another saga of sorry squabbles

### **RACING** BY RICHARD -EDMONDSON

Forecasting results, as my mother and loyal followers (one and the same) will vouch, is a tricky business in racing. Predicting squabbles within the sport less taxing. The end-of-term lament about prize money on the Turf will continue during 1998, but the horns will remain locked.

Government must find it hard to shed tears over the money-bloated owners seeking increased returns. The bookmakers, meanwhile, have now tightened their hands around the throat so much that the golden goose has passed out. Sheikh Mohammed and his brothers. though, are more likely to withdraw from the sport than the munificent boys with the corporate satchels are prepared to pay their way.

The proposed takeover of Coral by Ladbrokes further darkens the sport's future, while the real losers remain the real workers, the stable staff who could probably improve takehome pay if they became paperboys.

On the events front, the Cheltenham Festival will once again be the most expensive maul in the calendar. The Prestbury Park executive will almost certainly have to follow the leads of Royal Ascot and Kempton's King George VI Chase meeting and bring down the crowd limit.

On the Flat, the contest will be to keep Britain's premier prizes at home. France's Xaar could be the new superstar, with options primarily in the 2,000 Guineas, but also a consideration in the Derby.

### Overloaded structure could mean heavy fall-out

Unless someone comes up with a solid solution pretty damned quickly, English rugby will find itself bent grotesquely out of shape this year. The burning Millenium Dome of a problem. is the search for the structured season - or, in layman's terms, the attempt to give the Premiership clubs a competitive home game once a fortnight while accommodating something like 15 international and

European Cup weekends, It would be easier to land a man on Mars or discover the meaning of life. Five pre-Christmas England Tests, four Five Nations' weekends, a maximum of nine Heineken Cup contests, a minimum of 22 Allied Dunbar matches and up to five Tetlev's Bitter Cup ties add up to 45 Saturdays and with a six-week tramp around Australia. New Zealand and South more top-level opportunities Africa already pencilled in for for bright young English talent.

Predicting how the new year will

treat the game is akin to pre-

dicting which way a dropped

slice of toast will fall. The

instinctive fear of its followers

other side of the world mean it

The re-unification of the

does not have to be that way.

game in Australia offers the

opportunity to rebuild interna-

tional credibility. Genuine Tests

against Britain should return

next autumn, preceded by a

"home international" series in

#### **RUGBY UNION** BY CHRIS HEWETT

issue of the day, a veritable the summer recess, the leading players will be lucky to spend Christmas Day at home. Something has to give, but

what? The stage is set for a three-way verbal punch-up between the Rugby Football Union, the English Rugby Partnership and European Rugby Cup Ltd. While a nation may vawn at the prospect, failure to reach agreement over the next four weeks could lead to renewed threats of a breakaway by the clubs. For what it's worth, this correspondent believes the Heineken pool matches should be played in midweek over a three-month period. Not only would it free up weekends for the Premiership, but provide

Increased credibility will depend on 'genuine Tests'

is that it will be buttered side probability, have to wait for a

down, but recent events on the year, but there is a chance to sort

The World Cup will, in all dances seems unlikely and the

RUGBY LEAGUE

BY DAVE HADFIELD

out the international calendar

and turn it into the shop window

On the domestic front, there

for the code that it should be.

is much that is unfathomable.

Super League gave itself three

years to prove its worth. This is

its third - and that should focus

Any major boost in atten-

minds wonderfully.

Nations wins will send him headlong into rugby's version of the corridor of uncertainty. Forget the Tests with the All Blacks: the tête-à-tête with France in Paris on 7 February will be a seminal moment in the development of New England. It promises to be a depress-

ing year for Scotland, who do not possess a pack, and Ireland, who are short of a back division. Wales, though, have much to look forward to, provided Kevin Bowring comes to his senses and picks his sharpest attackers in Kevin Morgan, Gareth Wyatt and Arwel Thomas and his strongest forwards in Chris Anthony, Colin Charvis and the Quinnell brothers.

Prediction: England. France and Wales to win three games apiece in the Five Nations'.

game hadly needs a major spon-

troduction of a top-five play-off.

instead of the tired Premiership

structure, which was finally

brought into terminal disrepute

last season when all 12 Super

Bulls, who romped home in

Super League 1997, look omi-

nously stronger for 1998. The

much-changed St Helens and

London squads could also mount

challenges, but the smart money

is on a serious Wigan revival

under the returning John Monie.

Predictions: The Bradford

League clubs qualified for it.

One positive move is the in-

sor for its blue riband event.

#### make amends On the field. Clive Woodward is nearing the end of his with honour honeymoon as national coach: anything less than three Five

MOTOR RACING BY DERICK ALLSOP

Every year Formula One heralds a new season destined to be different and better. This time it really could be. Possibly.

New regulations give us narrower cars and grouved tyres. which will reduce lap times by around four seconds and, the authorities maintain, make racing safer. They hope also that the racing may prove more entertaining.

The drivers are doubtful that will be the case. After early winter testing the general view appears to be that, even if there initial acclimatisation skirmishes, overtaking will continue to be difficult because of the turbulence encountered as one car closes in on another. In theory, radical changes to

the rules should provide a level playing field. In reality, the teams with the expertise and resources are bound to be out in front again. If anything, the smaller teams may lose much of the ground they have clawed back in recent seasons.

The focus of most attention will be Ferrari, expected as they are to at last reach out for the world championship. Michael Schumacher, following his ignominious final act in 1997, has predicted success this time - and he does not make such predictions lightly.

It would, however, he foolhardy to suggest the champions. Williams, might be more vulnerable. They still have Renault engines by another name. Mepartment should be stronger now that Heinz-Harald Frentzen has had a year's experience with the team and Jacques Vil-

have gambled on adding Bridgestone Tyres to their improving package. Mika Hakkinen finished last season strongly and David Coulthard is intent on launching a championship bid. Prediction: Schumacher to show that he is the best - fair

They have a point. Bernhard Langer won four times in Europe in 1997 and went backwards on

the élite professionals of the Na-

part in the Games for the first

### TENNIS

the international scene, was BY JOHN ROBERTS achieved with honours by Greg Rusedski and Tim Henman in 1997. Their endeavours raised Rusedski (No 6) and Hencheers in such diverse locations as Doha, Sydney, New York and Tashkent.

Schumacher to Rusedski and Henman expected to improve even further

Pessimists will wonder if that is as good as it gets, fretting overthe number of world ranking points the pair now have to defend, instead of rejoicing at the potential for them to do even

Golf will go on in much the

same way in 1998. Tiger Woods

are joined by three new World

administrators at the US PGA

Tour are too shrewd to let that

happen without being the dom-

inant driving force, the events

do provide opportunities for

players in the top-50 or so on

the world rankings to contest for

world rankings do not find uni-

versal approval. Once, the

Americans thought it was

weighted against them, now

the Europeans know it is.

The problem is that the

the \$4m (£2.6m) purses.

Not quite a world circuit, the

Golf Championship events.

### man (No 17) timed their challenge to the hierarchy well.

Although Pete Sampras reigns supreme. Stefan Edberg and Michael Stich have gone. Boris Becker is semi-retired. Andre Agassi is making another comeback (No 122 in the world) and there are signs that Michael

Chang is starting to fade.

### Rankings becoming a moot point

will win the Masters, Colin BY ANDY FARRELL Montgomerie will challenge at the US Open, the Open will be unpredictable but memorable. wood, in winning the 66-man Volwhile the USPGA, after a year vo Masters (admittedly reduced at a quality venue like Winged to 54 holes), earned less than half

Foot, goes back to looking the points that David Duval more like a regular tour event. gained for winning the 30-man US Tour Championship. Bigger changes take place in 1999, when the majors, traditionally the only meeting places for all the world's best players.

At least Westwood's stellar finish to the year means be is safely inside the world top-50, where his colleagues need to find themselves by this time next

If the Solheim Cup, which takes place at Jack Nicklaus's Muirfield Village in September, were between the LPGA and the WPGE tours it would be even less of a contest than the match in 1945, which the Americans won 17-11. With the LPGA and world No 1 Annika Sorenstam, the LPGA's rookie of the year Lisa Hackney and US Women's Open champion Alison Nicholas, as well as Laura Davies et al, surely Europe can make a better fist of it this time. Predictions: Majors for

Montgomerie and Westwood,

#### venue in April when Rusedski and Henman lead the Britain's quest for a return to the Davis

Cup World Group. Seeded and given a bye in the first round, Britain will play Ukraine or

Newcastle Arena is the

16-strong World Group in July. Steffi Graf's career remains in limbo six months after surgery to her left knee. If and when the 28-year-old former world No 1 resumes playing, it will be in-

Denmark in the second round

of the Euro-African Zone. If

successful. Britain will qualify

for a play off for a place in the

teresting to see how well she responds to a new generation led by Martina Hingis, winner of three Grand Slams last year.

Prediction: Rusedski to win

### A crisis of domestic confidence

A total of 15 world records were set in 1997, and there is every reason to suppose there will be a similar impact on the lists this The fact that there is no

global competition - this is the year of the European Championships and the Commonwealth Games - is not relevant in terms of world records, as none of those set in 97 occurred at a major championship.

The major advances occurred in the men's middle distance events, where Kenya ended the season as the dominant nation. They look capable of huge returns at the Commonwealth Games in Kuala Lumpur in September, but on the grand prix circuit they will be challenged by the Ethiopian who held the world marks for both the 5,000 and 10,000 metres until two of the Kenyans, Daniel Komen and Paul Tergat, excelled themselves in Brussels on 22 August. After he had set his world 10,000 mark in Oslo, Haile Gebrselassie he would simply go one better. This season will see if he can live

up to his promise. For Britain's athletes, 1998 tal sharpness of 1996.

#### ATHLETICS BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

will be a watershed year. The British Athletic Federation is in receivership, Linford Christie, Sally Gunnell and Tessa Sanderson have departed the scene, and the sport is facing a crisis of confidence. But the performers are there to pull things round: Denise Lewis, Kelly Holmes. who can sweep all before her this year if she stays fit, a revitalised Colin Jackson, the new world junior 100m record holder Dwain Chambers, Jonathan Edwards and Steve Backley,

The most fascinating domestic struggle will be in the 400 metres, where the relative new boys - the British record holder Iwan Thomas, Jamie Baulch and Mark Richardson - will be contesting the European and Commonwealth titles with the vowed that, if anyone broke it, relative old boy. Roger Black, who has the capacity to end his career on a high note if he can recapture the fitness and men-

#### Infamous shadow of Tyson looms over the ring the rankings. And Lee West- but not necessarily in that order. cachrome, and their driver deenough of a fright against Kevin Nothing tells us more about the BOXING Gretzky breaks the ice as Gooch carries limited British medal hopes

state of professional boxing and, if you like, human nature than expectations raised by the probability of Mike Tyson's release from indefinite suspension 1998 because the values that when it is reviewed in June by the Nevada State Athletic

The sensational story of Tyson's decline and fall did not end when he was disqualified and thrown out of boxing for feeding on Evander Holyfield's right ear six months ago in Las Vegas. It will continue with Tyson's return to the ring in

BY KEN JONES

prevail in sport today make infamy profitable. Discredited and probably a spent force. Tyson nevertheless remains bigger at the box office than any other fighter out there. Holyfield v Tyson III, not a unification contest between Holyfield and Lennox Lewis, is the heavy-

When Joe Calzaghe outweight contest to look out for. Naseem Hamed received

Kelley in New York recently to realise that he should spend more time listening than on the loud hailer. One name leads to another for Hamed, but not before he has been fed an opponent good enough to keep him entertained while enriching his

pointed Chris Eubank for the vacant World Boxing Organisation super-middleweight championship, there was plenty to suggest that 1998 will see him make important advances.

The summer Olympics have the Dream Team. Now the win-McLaren Mercedes could ter Games have The Great be dark horses, especially as they One. Wayne Greizky will cap his ice hockey career with his first Olympic appearance at Nagano. Japan, starting next month. The International Olympic Committee has voted to allow

OLYMPICS BY MIKE ROWBOTTOM

time, just as they allowed the big names from the National Basketball Association - Michael Jordan, Magic Johnson - to join tional Hockey League to take the Olympic party in 1992. Another great one will be re-

newing his Olympic challenge on the ski slopes - 10 years after he won gold in the slalom and giant slalom, Alberto Tomba of Italy will be seeking a last hurrah.

The British Olympic Association is sending a team of only 30, in accordance with their ruling instituted in the light Britain's Games: all competitors have to be capable of a top-half finish.

So Britain, which took an Olympic silver through Torvill and Dean's brief return to competition at the 1994 Games, has only one figure skater - Steven Cousins in the men's singles.

There are, however, three good medal prospects - in the four-man bob, the men's curling performance at the 1996 summer and speed skating, where Nicky Gooch will seek to match the bronze he won in Hamar in 1994,

### **Keast furious** with Quins' 'arrogance'

David Llewellyn Hariequins Bristoi.

Andy Keast was fulminating the left. after watching the humbling of bis Harlequins side against the Allied Dunbar Premiership's stragglers, Bristol. For 20 minutes Quins ruled the roost. Then they lost it.

"I'm furious," Keast said. "That was a dreadful, frustrating performance. There was a certain amount of arrogance shown by the players after 20 minutes. If I had been given appearance money today I would not be putting it in my pocket.

The players showed a lack of humility. They thought they were world-beaters, that they could do it their own individual way, but this is a team game. Even when I sent on Thierry Lacroix, the rest of the guys just panicked."

Ominously he added: "This is professional rugby. This is not a fun playground. We are here to win and be the élite. If players do not come up to that they will be put on the transfer list."

Just four days ago, Bristol were on the end of a 50-point hiding. Yesterday they recorded their highest league score in two years, despite slipping 21-3 behind after 12 minutes. A thrilling match had the 5,124 supporters on tenterhooks until the fourth minute of stoppage time.

Quins' right wing Rob Liley fluffed a conversion of his side's

sixth try, which would have levelled the match. Keast admitted he was surprised that Liley, who had begun the match as main goal-kicker, did not let Lacroix have a pot from out on

Harlequins have been hit hard by injuries, particularly up front (but they also rested a few players, too). Understandably, Bristol targeted the forwards. They dominated the set scrums, held their own at the line-outs and, inspired by the former French international lock Thierry Devergie, drove at the heart of the Quins defence and scattered them to the four winds.

For all that. Bristol managed to concede some soft tries, which their coach, Alan Davies, admitted did not please him. "I did go berserk at the way we conceded all those tries," he said, "and the nature of our halftime chat centred around the pride we feel for the club.

"We are desperate to win and this victory will have a phenomenal impact on and off

First, though, Bristol had to endure the sight of Harlequins romping in at will, Jason Keyter, Liley and the fly-half, Paul Challinor, all touching down and Liley doing the honours with the conversions.

It was looking grim for the Premiership's whipping boys, who had lost seven of their previous eight Premiership matches. Harlequins were running riot. But they were also getting cocky.

And Bristol had Paul Burke.



The Harlequins winger Dan Luger occupies most of the Bristol defence but his side slumped to defeat at The Stoop yesterday

Photograph: Peter Jay

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Men

12.50

Part of the second

Many Telephone

The Ireland international's accurate kicking kept Bristol in touch whenever Harlequins threatened to break away. It also helped him to a match haul of 25 points. He it was who scored their first, crucial try after Bristol won a scrum against the head

by shoving Quins back. Having realised that Quins

again with a fine try by the fullback Josh Lewsey, the hall travelling through at least a dozen cool conversion nosed them in front right on half-time.

Brownrigg's 44th-minute try. half tries all proved in vain.

were not on the pace, they struck - landed a penalty and a couple more conversions - one for Dave Tiueti's interception try. The Tongan wing sprinted clear pairs of hands and a couple of ef- of the cover and raced 55 yards ficient rucks on its way. Burke's for his second long-distance try in successive games. Johnny Ngauamo's, Keyter's second Burke had a hand in Jim and finally Dan Luger's second-

tequins: Tries Keyter 2. Liley, Challinor, suemo Luger; Conversions Liley 3. Lacroo. stol: Tries Burke, Lewsey Browningo, Tweti; nversions Burke 4: Penattiee Burke 4 Conversions Burle 4: Personal Conversions 20; R Liey, Harriequins: S Sewert (J Williams, 20; R Liey, J Keyter, J Ngauamo, D Lurger: P Chellinor (L Lacros, 47). H Harries (N Watsh: 77); A Caclentis, P Delaney R Nabbett (A Yates, 58); G Llewellym, L Gross (R Jernitins, 60); B Davison (capt); L Ca-harnes, A J Lacrh

L cross (R Jenkins, 60), B Davison (capt), L Ca-barnes, A Leach Bristol: J Lewsey, D Tayan, P Hull, S Martin, I Jones (R Yapp, 68); P Burke (capt), G Barber, M Worsley, K Dunn, K Fullman, C Eagle, T De-verge, S Pearca, J Brownings, C Short (E Rol-litt, 27).

### RFU extends drug controls

Officials are to increase the about 50 tests a year, it is now number of drug tests on players

intending to extend testing into

Michele Verroken, the Sports Council's head of doping, accused the RFU of having an "un-

**RUGBY LEAGUE** 

### Mercer leaves Leeds and heads to Huddersfield but has to wait to play

Halifax have finally got their man before it closed down for the Leeds for a small fee. The 31two-year contract after a long pursuit. He will not be able to was not with the Rugby League nity to impress.

by signing Gary Mercer from New Year holiday yesterday. Halifax will also be without

year-old New Zealand interna- their other signing from Leeds, tional back-rower, who played the full-back, Damian Gibson, for Bradford and Warrington be- and their two other new Ausfore spending five years with tralians, Gavin Clinch and Des Leeds has joined the club on a Clark, who have yet to arrive in the country.

Two of their young players, play in today's match at Hud- Oliver Marns and Andy Hobdersfield because his registration son, get a pre-season opportu-

not finished doing business with Leeds, who have their own New Year fixture against Castleford.

The Halifax football manager, David Hobbs, says that the swap deal which could take er, to Headingley in exchange

royd is "on the back-burner". that a deal will go through, be- up the numbers as they play

would really improve our side." "The deal is waiting for Paul

to agree terms with Leeds and

Murray, to arrive." Paul Rowley, the England book- ing how much to offer Halifax third-round draw for which is

for the stand-off Graham Hol- ond-row, Michael Jackson. excluded because their future

Hobbs said: "We still hope will have several triallists making the Cup were drawn up.

VERNONS: Treble chance: 24pts £13260, 23 £2005, 22 £335, Super shots (peld on two correct): £465, Premier 10: £11100.

ZETTERS: Treble chance: 24pts C28750 23 C315, 22 C140 (titree dividents criv), Four draws: C280, Eight homes: C200 Four eweys: C2000 Lucky numbers: 27 26 3 8 28

10.
BRITTENS (Played 27-28 Dec): Treble chance: 24pts £1135 23 £205 (two dividends only). Four draws: £375. Eight homes: £430. Five aways: £1280.

Rugby Union

Halifax hope that they have cause we think that Holroyd their first match, at Rochdale Homets this afternoon.

The club has still not signed enough players to field a side. for their new coach, Graham but will be stepping up the campaign to be included in the Sheffield Eagles are decid- Silk Cut Challenge Cup. the for the former Great Britain sec-held on Monday. Oldham were The re-formed Oldham club was uncertain when plans for

> Australia's Chris Nicholson and Danie Philips produced a steady performance to stay on top of the leader board when the qualifying stage of the 49er World Championship ended in

> A World Cup men's giant stalom scheduled for Hinterstöder in Austria

on 6 January has been cancelled be-cause of a lack of snow.

LTA WINTER SERIES (Sheffield): Men's final: A Whart (Gloucs) bt M Boulding (Yorks) 6-3 6-1 Women's final: K Hughes (Leics) bt S Gregg (Yorks) 6-4 5-7 6-4.

TODAY'S NUMBER

The number of Test matches Steve Waugh will have

under his belt when he

starts against South Africa

in Sydney tomorrow. The

David Boon and Alian Bor-

Australian vice-captain joins

Sailing

Skiing

Tennis

Sydney yesterday.

### LINGFIELD (AW)

**HYPERION** 

1.05 Celtic Comfort 1.30 Super Monarch 2.05 Mazeed 2.40 Ivory's Grab Hire 3.15 Blue Shadow 3.45 Guesstimation

GOING: Standard. STALLS: Inside except Im (outside). DRAW ADVANTAGE: Low for 5! & 6L

DHAW ADVANTAGE: LOW not 51 or 8.

■ Left-hand, sharp course (Equinack surface).

■ Course is south-east of lown on B2022 Rail station adjoins course.

ADMISSION: Members: 213 Tattersels £10. Accompanied under-65 free. CAR PARIX: Out. 53., remainder free.

■ LEADING TRAINERS: G L Moore 77-585 (13.2%), M Johnston 61-311 (195%), R Hannon 51-396 (12.2%), Gay Kalbreray 34-204 (16.7%).

■ LEADING JOCKEYS: A Clark 65-540 (12%), J Quinn 47-729 (6.5%). S Whitworth 42-310 (33%), D Biggs 40-495 (81%). ● FAVOURITES: 655-1973 (331%), BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Muja's Magic (325).

1.05 STITCH IN TIME CLAIMING STAKES (CLASS E) £3,750 added 3YO 1m

C8521- MYSTAGOGUE (54) (C) R Harmon 9.5 Pobb C8000- CELTIC COMPORT (41) P Haslem 9.4 L Char 00003- AFTER EIGHT (37) R Amestrong 9.0 A \_A Clark? 

— 12 declared —

— 12 declared —

BETTING: 11-4 kaputsky Desky, 4-1 Celtic Cozdot, 11-2 Mystagogue, 8-1 After Eight, 7-1 Circumnavigate, 8-1 Raturatelae, 10-1 Legal Lark, 12-1 Bermuda Triangle, 16-1 Lady So Bold, 20-1 Deset Native, River Frontier

1.30 BAD PENNY MAIDEN STAKES (CLASS D) £5,000 added 1m 2f O. BO'JUST (10) P Hayward 889 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Dane O'Nettl
O. ANITA IN WALES (10) P Exces 487 \_\_\_\_ G Faultoner (5) 1

- 14 duckered -BETTING: 9-4 Stanida, 3 Super Monerch, 9-2 Sharbedarid, 13-2 ManDato, 10-1 Castis Ashby Jack, 12-1 Blue Lamp, 14-1 Backinsth, Sharp Deed, 16-1 Sandville Lad, 20-1 Fleuve D'Or, 33-1 others

### the off-season.

in England as fears grow about the problem in the sport. With the Rugby Football Union under attack from the Sports Council for carrying out only helpful attitude" to drug control.

> 3 03020 COMANCHE COMPANION (33) T.J. Naughton 8.9 0... T Spraice 4 4 01004 EUROBOX BOY (30) A Jarve 5 8 0 C Carver (7) 3 5 60400 EUROSINE POWER (58) (CD) G Bravery 7 8 0 L N Dey 6 2008 C CRINGAC (10) S Dow 4 8 2 R Perhen 3 33005 TAME CAN TELL (44) J W Payne 4 8 2 Dann McKepten 1

> -7 declared BETTING: Evens Mazzed, 11-2 Commuche Companion, 8-1 Time Can
> Tell, 7-1 Eurobox Boy, 8-1 Chingachgook, 10-1 Explosive Power, 14-1
> Awasome Power

2.40 TOO MANY COOKS HANDICAP (CLASS E) 23,750 added 6f 

6 (3000- PLEIN GAZ (FFR) (13) (D) J Bridger 5 8 8 .... 

3.15 BIRD IN THE HAND HANDICAP (CLASS D) £5,000 added 3YO 7f 

BETTING: 3-1 Blue Stadow, 100-30 Ball Denos, 5-1 Stim Prior, 6-1 Pipe Music, 8-1 Mydr's Magic, Dunce To The Beat, 10-1 Prince Oxley, Fasicanberg, 14-1 Genius

3.45 ROLLING STONE HANDICAP (CLASS F) £3,000 added 1m 4f

6 06500- CAPTAIN'S DAY (13) (C) H Collegedge 8 9 3 ... . M Festion 1

### SPORTING DIGEST

The Queen's estate at Balmoral in Scotland is being lined up to stage a ma-jor meeting at Easter. A spokesman for the athletics promoters Nova International confirmed they intend staging a festival of international road running at Thomas Nyariki, the world cross-coun-

Inomas Nyama, the wond cross-country bronze medallist, has accepted an invitation to replace fellow Kenyan Wilson Boit Kipketer in Saturday's County Durham International meet. Kipketer, the world 3,000 metres steeplechase champion, withdrew from the race because he was unable to obtain a visa to enter Rittein.

60 G-105 CHIGADI SÁO SIMPESTRE 15KM ROAD RACE (Seó Paulo, Brazzi): Men: 1 Emergen (Bra) 44min 40esc 2 P Tegat (Ken) 44.45; 3 H Parnesis (SA) 44.55; 4 J Moraped (SA) 45; 5 S Guerra (SA) 44.58 Women's race: 1 M Tenno (Ecu) 52.04, 21. Molagat (Ken) 53:02; 3 C Sorraggio (M 53:06); 4 V Obreira (Bra) 53:31; 5 F Barsosio (Ken) 54:37

#### Basketball

Ski Hodine

North America.

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NEWSTEL

Michael Jordan broke Karaem Abdul-Jabbar's record for consecutive NBA games with at least 10 points, reach-ing double figures for the 788th con-secutive time against Minnesota Timberwolves on Tuesday. Timberwolves on Tuesciay. Macmi 90 Cleveland 78; Deural 700 Toronto 95; Minmi 90 Cleveland 78; Deural 700 Toronto 95; Minmisota 99 Checago 95; New York 84 Orbando 79; Mawakes 205 Dalas 98 (20) Luta 132 Denvir 99; Princerk 100 Boston 90; Portland 98 Philadelphia 80; San Artonio 124 Vancouver 15; Seattle 101 Golden State 87; LA Lakers 93 Seassmants 80.

SICOL WORLD DARTS CHAMPIONSHIP (Circus Tevenn, Perfect, Essect: Group P. P Markey (Engl tt G Marwon (Can) 3-0. Group C R Herington (Engl tt J Harvey (Sco) 3-0. Group Pt: S Surgess (Engl tt B Anderson (Engl 3-0. Group 0: M Menning (Engl) bt K Deller (Engl 3-2.

Fifa, football's world governing body, has asked New Zealand to move the 1999 junior World Cup finals from February to October. The move would en-able European and American countries to complete their qualifying rounds in their traditional period in April and May. The Dutch international goalkeeper

Dusan Uhrin. SMIRNORF IRISH LEAGUE Prentier Division: Crusaders 1 (Doman 60) Ards 0. Crusaders 1 (Domen 80) Arcs 0.

ARTONWIDE FOOTBALL LEAGUE: ReArranged fedures: The 8 Jans: Scarborough
v Darington (from 28 Decl. The 27 Jans:
Rotherham v Cambridge Uhd (from 3 Jan). The
10 Febt Northampton v Wycombe (from 3 Jan). The
10 Febt Northampton v Wycombe (from 3 Jan).
Sun 16 Mar: Odham v Brind City (from 7 Mar).
Sun 16 Mar: Middlechough v Norwich
from 21 Mar). Fri 3 Apr. Pelarborough v Nortis
County (from 4 Apr).

**SNOW REPORT** 

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Calls to 0891 numbers cost 50p/min; to 08975 numbers £1/min at all times. Helpline 0870 0990 133 345.

ANDORRA

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FRANCE

Diamone ...

NORWAY

SPAIN

SWITZERLAND

UNITED STATES

#### Football

The Dutch international goalkeeper Stanley Menzo has signed a four-year contract with the Belgian League champions, Lierse, the club he left six months ago to join Bordeaux in the french League. The Sparta Prague coach Jozef Chovanec will be appointed the new coach of the Czech Republic nation-al side next week. The former PSV Endhoven defender, 37, will succeed Dusan Uhrin.

#### lce hockey Great Britain's World Junior Champ-

ionship campaign suffered another set-back when they slumped to a 5-1defeat in Pool C against Italy in Es-5-roeled in Four Cagainst train in Es-tonia, Romania, who lost 4-2 to Croa-tia, are Britain's final opponents in the final round of group games today. NHL: Carolina 2 Anaheim 1; Florida 2 San Joss 2 (at); Chicago 6 New Jersey 2; Phil-adelphia 3 Edmonton 1

#### Motor racing

KUGDY Union

SCOTLAND TRIAL (Myreside, Wednesday): REDS: H Glimour; C Glasgow, J Mayer (all Edinburgh). P Rouse, J Kerr (both Caladonia; D Hodge (Edinburgh): F Stott Glasgow); P Wright (Scottish Borders), G Scott (Caledonia), B Stewart (Edinburgh): I Fullarton (Scottish Borders), A Lucking; C Matrixer; S Reid (capi), G Dall (all Edinburgh). Replacements from: A Bulloch, G Metcathe, J Shraw (all Gasgow), J McLaren, M McKenzle, W Anderson (all Caladonia), J Hay, I Feisley (both Scottish Borders), S Paul, M Blair, T McVie (all Edinburgh).

BLUES: R Shephard (Caledonia), A Stanger, Jacques Villeneuve, the Formula One world champion, suffered concussion in a skiing accident in France yesterday. The 26-year-old was flown by helicopter to hospital from the Pratoup resort. He later left hospital to celebrate the New Year with a group of friends in Switzerland.

The tate of Belgium's Formula One Grand Prix, in danger of being scrapped is to hang in the balance for at least another week. The race director, Andre Mass, announced the stay of execution yesterday, the day after a local court refused to scrap a tobacco snonsorship han threatening the co sponsorship ban threatening the event. Formula One officials had threatened to axe Belgium's Grand Prix with immediate effect unless the race or-gardsers could find a way around the ban by 31 December

Pools dividends LITTLEWOODS (Matches played 25 De-cember): Treble chance: 24pts £6,44825, 23 £9225 22 £845 21 £230.

Area Last Lwr Upp Forecast

100% 30 ft 80 170 Light snow

open snow am am

100% 2912 40 100

40% 25.12 50 \$0

85% 310 30 50

92% 2812 & 90

Snow Reports supplied by Newstell

JGood conditions reported (07%, 30.12 SO 70 Some cloud

Fresh show on Zugopitze glacor 90% 28 12 5 180 Changeable

Artificial show on lower slopes 90%, 28 t2 30 185 Unsettled

T McVie (all Edinburgh).

BLUES: R Shepherd (Caledonia), A Stanger, C Murray, G Shale (all Scottish Borders), D Stark (Glasgow); C Chatmers, B Redpath both Scottish Borders); G McIlwham, G Budloch (all Glasgow), S Ferguson (Scottish Borders), S Grimes (Caledonia), G Perrett (Glasgow), R Watmerght (capt, M Watte (both Caledonia), A Rouburgh (Scottish Borders), Replacements (from); S Hastings, G Burna, R McMutty, B Ward, D Burna (all Edinburgh), S Longstaff, S Perman, G Plockham, K McKenzie (all Caledonia), S Weish, C Hogg (both Scottish Borders), ALLIED DIMMAD DIEMMERSHIP ONE (Doth Scottsh Borders).
ALLIED DUNBAR PREMIERSHIP ONE: Harisquins 38 Bristol 40.

Football

3.0 unless stated

der in Australia's 100 club. Wicketkeeper lan Healy is one Test behind Waugh. TODAY'S FIXTURES

100

BELL'S SCOTTISH LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION Hearts v Hilbertsen (2.0)...... Hearis v Hiberrisis (2.0)
GM VAINHALL CONFERENCE
Farnborough v Wolding
Halfast v Gateshard
Hayes v Stough
Kettering v Hearesford
Kidderminster v Hereford (12.30)
Southport v Morecambe
Stalybridge v Northwich
Stavenage v Rushden

Weilang v Dovernam (1.0)

UNIBOND LEAGUE Premier Division: According Starley v Racidite Berought: Barrow v Lancaster; Boston Utel v Geinsborough; Chorley v Bember Bidge; Winston v Athnotem, First Division: Ashton Lid v Great Harwood; Forziery Cellit v Bradiord Park Avenue; Fluton v Whitley; Witton Albion v Metiock.

DR MARTIENS LEAGUE Premier Division: Ashton's Sittingbourne; Burton Albion v Greater V Bath City; Halsoneen Town v Worcester; Heatings v St Leonards Stamontit; Kings Lynn v Rothweit; Marthyr (ytil v Donchester; Nuneation v Bronsgrove; Salasbury v Forzest Grean Rovers; Banworth v Atherstone, Middand Division: Blakenali v Paget Rangers; Granfram v Sregsfed Dynamo; Buscon v Wishoth; Ramds v Stepsfed Sutton Coldried v Bedworth; VS Rugby v Braddey, Southern Divisions Chelmsford

| Earling to draw the correct weight | 2.10; VCD Advistic v furthridge Wels (2.5) | 2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 6-1; 2.5) | 4.10: 1.0 | 4.10: 2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 6-1; 2.5 | 4.10: 2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 6-1; 2.5 | 4.10: 2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 6-1; 2.5 | 4.10: 2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 6-1; 2.5 | 4.10: 2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 6-1; 2.5 | 4.10: 2.10:

(IQ): Weymouth v Waterloadie.

WINSTONLEAD KENT LEAGUE First Division: Bedserham v Cay Wandsres (130); Deal v Hythe Und; Lordswood v Crockerhall (IQ); Remagate v Whitstable (IQ); Sheppey v Thamesmead; Swarley Furness v Chatham (216); VCD Athetic v Turbridge Wels (215).

SCREWTX DIRECT LEAGUE Premier Division: Torrington v Bidsford.

Other sports 12.45: 1. UNSINKABLE BOXER (A P Mo-Coy) 1-2 tav: 2. Mr Chataway 10-1; 3. Pro-ceed 25-1 15 ran. 4, 8. (M Pipe) Tota: \$170; DARTS: Skel World Championship (Circus Tavern, Purfleet)

### RACING RESULTS

CATTERICK 12.40: 1. CLASSIC EAGLE (L Wyer) 4-1: 2. Moteum 66-1; 3. Legal Right 2-1 fav. 16 ran. 14, 15. (Mrs D Haine, Newmarket). Tota: 230; 5: 140. E180. E170. Duel Fore-cast: 230; 90. CSF: £216:43. Tric: not won. (pool of 255; 22 to Cheistenham 2: 0 today). Non Runner: Enerov Man (pool of 1255.72 to Chesterham 2.N today). Non Runner: Energy Man 1,10: 1. ARTHÜR BEE: C McCormach 50-1; 2. Manaddi 8-1; 3. Moss Pageant 8-1.10 ran. 11-8 lew Whitegates Wille (Sth.) 11/4. 11/4. (B Bousfield, Brought) Tote: 53450; 5370. 1150, 12:10. DF: £88.80. GSF: £360.75. Tho:

E150, E210, DF, £88,80, CSF; £380,75, Tho:
£78,40

1.40; 1. TROODOS (6 Harding) 5-1; 2.
Charlot Man II -2: 3. Saucy Nun 5-2 fav. 7
ran. rk, 1½, Mirs A Swinbank, Richmond).
Tota: £800; £290, £250 DF: £1430, CSF;
£28,99. Tricast: £7090. Non Runnar: Nies
Syrits Palace Of Gold was first peat the post
but after an objection, by the clerk of the
scales, was disqualified and placed last for
falling to draw the correct weight.
2.10: 1. WINTER BELLE (A Dobbin) 61; 2. Sheetin Lad 6-1; 3. Peruntan Gate II-

FONTWELL

alyedward 2.20: 1. FLAXLEY WOOD (6 Powell) 4-1; 2. lets Dawn 9-4 far; 3. Daring King 6-1.8 ran. 4 dist. (R Buckler). Tota: \$5.20; £160, £100, £180, DF: \$4.70. CSF: £12.72. Tricast \$47.97. 2.50: 1. BUCKLAND LAD (6 Fenton) 9-4; 2. Denthes Cavaffer 2-1 fav; 3. Dear Do 5-2.6 ran. hd, 21. (D Gressel). Tota: £300; £190, £100, DF: £450. CSF: £711. NR: Clever Dick. 3.20: 1. TONKA (D Galagher) 9-2; 2. Anna Schall #2-1: 3. Knuckleburster 2-1 fav. 7 ran.

Solell 12-1; 3. Knucklebuster 2-1 fax. 7 ran. 18, 14 (D Gardolfo). Tota: £5.20; £180, £700. DF: £48.20, £5F: £47.25. Placement £5F: £67.25. DOC: 21380 WARWICK

12.30: 1. KADOU NONANTAIS (J A Mo-Carthy) 8-4 fax; 2. Country Krite 25-1: 3. Brownes Hill Lad 12-15 fam. 18, 2/h. (O Sherwood, Upper Lambourn). Totar: £3.30; £140, £390, £180. DF: \$45.50. £57. £60.48. Tro: £58.20. NRs: Duke's Mourn, Mimosa. 1.00: 1. MRE. STOCK MEGGIE (M Berry). 8-1; 2. Avanti Express 7-2; 3. Mr Cotton Bocks 16-1 9 ran. 2-1 fav Gendos (urseated ricks). 1/h. 11. (C Brooks, Lambourn). Tota: £0.70; £2:10. £170. £190. DF: £20.70. CSF: £34.93. Tilo: £53.90. Following a stewards' inquiry, Aratti Express who finished first was disqualified and placed second. 1.30: 1. LINE OF CONQUEST (T Das-combe) 15-3 fax; 2. Harbet House 11-2; 3. 12.30: 1, KADOU NONANTAIS (JAMO

combe) 15-3 fav; 2. Harbet House 11-2; 3. Ranger Slosene 11-4 7 ran. 3%, dist. (R Hodges, Somerton), Tota: £3.00; £1.70. £2.70. DF. £9:0. CSF: £11.77. 2.00: 1. STANMORE (S McNeil) 9-2; 2.

DF: 08/20 CSF: 298/26 Throat: 02/69/97 Throats.
3.00: 1. MASTER CHET (N Williamson)
10-1; 2. Man of The Matich 14-1; 3. By's
Harbour 10-1 15 ran. 5-1 fav. Lun-U-Frank
(unseated nden, 7, 6. (Miss V Williams, Hereford). Tota: £19/0; £2/0; £3/0; £2/0 DF:
£3/94/0. CSF £3/60; Thro: £4/30 (pool of
£1/39/2 to Cheherham 2/0 today).
3.30: 1. WILMOTTS FANCY (S killy) 101; 2. Ardiffman 5-4 fay; 3. Obtilismals 12-1
21 ran. //s. 1/-/. (Miss V Williams, Hamford).
Tota: £11/90; \$4/60; £1/0; £3/90 UF: £5/90.
CSF: £2/26. Thro: £1/7/90, NR: Siofra.
Jeckboot: not won [lood of £1/80/60 68\*-Jackpot: not won (pool of £1084080 car-ried forward to Chefterham today). Placepot: £123880. Quadpot: £15160. Place 8: £1255.50 Place 5: £67316.

THE INDEPENDENT RACING SERVICES 0891 261 + LIVE COMMENTARIES RESULT CHELTENHAM 971 981 WINDSOR 972 982 LERCESTER 973 983 CATTERICK 974 984 ALL COURSES RESULTS 0891 261 970

حكمان الاعل

2.45 Go-Informal 3.20 Irish Stamp (nb) 3.55 PRINCEFUL (nap)

### هكدامن الإصل

### 25/RACING

### Turnpole weighted to turn on the style

Hong Kong is not the only place to be suffering from & Mysterious animal virus. Racehorses have been afflicted by an untraceable bug in recent weeks and punters are beginning to catch a cold from it. Richard Edmondson reports.

there was to be an extensive mystery disease Britain's racerather nervous in their boxes.

For while Hong Kong has been wrestling with the deadly by at Wetherby last week. There chicken 'flu of the H5N1 virus, jump racing too has been visited by a virulent germ; one that no-one seems able to identify, let alone eradicate.

The two most high-profile

ing bacteria are the greys One was in charge of an infirmary Man and Suny Bay. Both ran rather than a racehorse centre deplorably in the King George VI Chase at Kempton on Box- December, but last week the ing Day at a time when their stablemates were also exhibiting checked out of Grange Hill symptoms of being in the thrall Farm. of sickness.

The fortunes of the Upper

Lambourn trainer Charlie Brooks were typical. Uplands did not send out a runner for 14 When news swept through the days until recently following a animal kingdom recently that depressingly recurring theme when runners were sent to the stanghter to rid mankind of a racecourse, apparently in rude health, only to run stinkers. It horses must have been getting is a similar story at the Lockerbie yard of the much vaunted Sparky Gayle, who ran so badare no colds or runny noses in Colin Parker's stable, and no runny horses at the racetrack either, rather ones that are walk-

ing over the finishing line.

horses believed to have been offered by the Cheltenham base but nothing glaring came up at termoon. For those happy to acvictims of this winter's spread- of Nigel Twiston-Davies. He too all. As well as everyone else we cept the Twiston factor, Ocean for much of November and malady signed the register and "The horses that weren't

> The results were immediately staggering, even if the

RICHARD EDMONDSON NAP: Turnpole (Cheltenham 245) NB: Court Melody (Cheltenham 2.10)

trainer himself cannot explain how disease either arrived at or which both "O" and Houston would be envious, but not a single microbe showed up on the medical charts. "We've got a resident vet and all the equipment here." Twiston-Davies said yes-

were getting the odd dirty trahorses are going well as a whole you get a few of those returned.

running up to expectations didn't have bad blood tests and there was no way that we could have said before last weekend that our horses were going to run so well. Their blood was in exactly the same state as the well. I've no idea why they ran so much better.

"All the horses have looked wonderful all the time and of course you wouldn't run them departed his premises. Grange if they didn't. You would nev-Hill has the sort of gadgetry of er send them out there if you weren't certain in your own mind that they were 100 per cent okay." All this is rather disturbing information for those wishing to begin their 1998 punting successfully on Chel-The glimmer of optimism is terday. "We tested everything tenham's televised card this af-

Hawk will be a popular choice chea wash, but even when the in the long-distance hurdle. He ran well on his seasonal debut at Ascot in November considering the trip was on the short side and he was facing a Pridwell at the Ben Nevis of his confidence. Go-Informal was much further behind Martin Pipe's horse in the Long Walk Hurdle later on the same course.

Mighty Moss has been runones that hadn't been running ner-up in each of his last five outings, including a length second to Istabraq in the Royal SunAlliance Novices' Hurdle at the Festival, and while his chance is obvious his form is getting too much like a pattern. TURNPOLE (nap 2.45), the Cesarewitch winner, ran respectably on his reappearance at this course, when he was asked to carry the equivalent of the Queen Mary over 3m 2f. No runner will transport less weight than him today.

FIRST SHOW

7 114-13 BOOTS MADDEN (14) (D) (BF) Miss V Williams 8 10 5 ...

- 8 declared - 8 ETTING: 9-4 Boots Madden, 11-4 Malwood Castle, 7-2 Rectory Garden, 13-2 Strokesaver, 10-1 Seod Rioga, Professor Strong, 12-1 Lay It Off, 14-1 Hawalian Youth

2.35 TOTE CREDIT HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £7,500 added 2m 6f 110yds

12-333 BARFORD SOVEREIGN (23) J Fanshawe 6 12 0 X Aizpuru (5)

1F-234 EAU DE COLOGNE (6) Mrs L Richards 6 Ti 12 ... M Richards

2m-53 TICKERTY'S GIFT (19) G L Moore 8 m ft . ... M Batchelor (7)

CCS SPRUNG RHYTHM (785) K Balley 6 10 5 Mr R Waldey (5)

- 7 declared -BETTING: 2-1 Special Beat, 3-1 Barford Sovereign, 4-1 Frontier Flight, 6-1 Tickerry's Grit, 7-1 Eau De Cologne, 10-1 Sprung Rhythm

3.05 HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000

C. SET, KEEP ME IN MIND (31) (D) N Michel 9 (2.0) A Thomto 1P1-4 COLONEL BLAZER (27) (D) Miss H knight 6 ft 9 . J F Titley 322L4 SHERWOOD BOY (27) (D) h Baley 9 ft 12 . Mir R Weidey (5)

3306 MOST WELCOME NEWS (16) GL Moore 6 104 D Gallagher U244: PRIMITIVE STREAK (45) R Hodges 7 10 0 T Descorabe 3357 P WORTHY MEMORIES (43) Ms M Jones 9 10 0 M Dunne (5)

DE-POY SISSINGHURST FLYER (33) R Dickin 6 (0.0 . X Aizpuru (5

P29644 HIGHLAND FLAME (12) A Blackmore 9 to 0 ... P Hankey (3)

- 9 declared -

Minanum weight 10st True handicap weights: Worthy Memones 9st 11to, 5ss.ngmus; Fiver & Highward Fizine 9st 2to BETTING: 9-4 The Secret Grey, 3-1 Colonel Blazer, 7-2 Sherwood Boy, 13-2 Keep Ne In Mind. 10-1 Highland Fizine, 12-1 Primitive Street, 14-1 Most Welcome News, 16-1 Worthy Memones, 33-1 Sissinghurst Flyer

3.35 ROYAL WINDSOR NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,900 added 2m

53% BOLD ROMEO (27) N Henderson 6 til 5 JR Kav

G. THE OLD BAWNEDGUES (12) G L Moore 5 ft 5.D Gallaghe 55250 WENTWORTH (SS) G Thomas 6 11 5 . X Alzguru (S) B . 13094 ZIP YOUR LIP (SS7) Mrs P Townsley B 11 5 Mr P Townsley Co. 5 CINNAMON CLUB (S1) N Gaselee 6 11 0 ..... A Thomson

- 12 declared -

BETTING 4-5 Skycab, 7-2 Native Charm, 7-1 Skimabit, 8-1 Bold Romeo 12-1 Curnamon Club 14-1 The Old Bawnaogues, 16-1 Carra Island, Went worth. Zep Your Lip, 20-7 others

00 CARRS ISLAND (14) J Gittora 6 ft 5 Po DERRY'S GLORY (12) P Hedger 6 ft 5 904(9) KING OF SWING (28) V Spane 6 ft 5

4-52 SKYCAB (27) J Gifford 6 11 5

. L Aspeli (3) M Richards J F Tidey

. G Bradies

added 2m

(m 22 SPECIAL BEAT (28) (BF) N Henderson 6 ft ff.

### Court M Danger 25-1 16-1 20-1 16-1 Each way a fighthe polds, places 1, 2, 3 C - Coral, H - William Hill, L - Ladbrokes, T - Tota

There will be no great award

for originality for those who sup-

port Vent D'Aout (1.35) and Me-

Gregor The Third (3.20), but it

is better to be boring than los-

ing. More complex is the re-

maining race in front of the

The Miles Gosling Handicap

Chase will be a real flask and

biscuits job over 4m1f of Prest-

bury Park's testing terrain in soft

ground. Take the telephone off

the hook for 20 minutes to

the Scottish National, will be

backed, as he needs the sort of

contests in which you get spon-

sored per mile. His stablemate

Turning Trix will not be ig-

nored either as it looked as

though there was still something

to work on when he last ran at

Haydock. However. Court

Melody (next best 2.10) beat

him a long way that day and with

Paul Nicholls' yard cruising

along he has to be the choice.

Baronet, who was third in

avoid interruption.

cameras.

<u> </u>	יעו	W.			added 2m 5f Penalty Value £8,091
					1 F11-64 UNIGUIDED MISSILE (12) (C) (D) (D E Harrison) G Richards 10 12 0
					2 6P2PO- NAHTHEN LAD (289) (CD) (J Shaw) Mrs J Pitman 9 10 13
					3 1221-U MACGEORGE (26) (D) (J H Richmond-Welson) R Lee 8 103
Chelte	nha	m —	· 2.10	,	4 -22361 MONKS SOHAM (18) (D) (G A Hubberd) G Hubbard 10 10 0Michael Brennan (3)
	_			_	5 11/521 PETE THE PARSON (14) (WESturt) JOIL 9 10 0
	<u> </u>	<u>H</u>	L	<u></u>	6 6032-1 YEOMAN WARRIOR (20) (CD) (Mrs Heather Alwer) R Powe TI 10 0
's Cousade	- 0.9	92	9-2	4-1	- 6 declared -
a canonic				<del></del> -	Minimum weight: 10st. True hendicap weights: Monks Sohem 9st 11lb, Pete The Parson 9st 10lb, Yeo-
Melody	41	92	9-2	4-1	men Werrior Set 785
				_	BETTING: 3-1 Petz The Parson, 100-30 Unguided Missile, 7-2 Nahthen Lad, 5-1 Macgaorge,
th <b>a</b>	7-2	9-2	41	41	Yaoman Warrior, 8-1 Monks Spham
_					FORM GUIDE
at	92	5-1	5-1	<u>5-1</u>	Unguided Misaile has tailed to fire on two runs this season and he's now dropped in
r Baby	5-1	92	4-1	11-2	distance on ground softer than he likes. He looks worth opposing and PETE THE PAR-
- Day	<u> </u>	<u> ~ </u>	71	117	SON can win it. A promising winning novice last year, Pete The Parson should get the
Cavaller	8-1	B-1	B-1	<u>9-1</u>	trip and won easily under a much bigger weight from Parliamentarian at Towcester last
Trix	14-1	16-1	14-1	12-1	time. Nahithen Lad's latest win was in the Sun Alfance Chase two sessons ago. He
				<u></u> -	ran well for a long way in the Grand National and, with a record of winning when fresh
ands Boy	20-1	74-1	16-1	16-1	m the past, he can be given a chance. Macgeorge progressed to win three times last
	~	~-	~	~ .	season and he was in front when he fell at the water at Wetherby on his reappearance.

CHELTENHAM

12.30 River Bay 1.00 Monks Soham

2.10 Danger Baby

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: None

1.35 Shadiann

HYPERION

● Course is im north of town of IA35. Bus link from Cheltenham real station (served by Bristol, Briningham and London, Paddington) 2 miles away, ADMISSION: Club & Tatlersalls combined C14 (Liniors 19); Courage Enclosure 15. CAR PARIK: Free. ● LEADING TRAINERS (5-YEAR RECORD): M Pipe 38 winners from 251 numbers (153%), D Nicholson 32-180 (178%), N Twission-Davies 23-215 (10.7%), O Shenrood 14-58

© LEADING JOCKEYS: A P McCoy 29 wins from 111 rides (261%), N Williamson 29-127 (22.9%), M A Fitzgerald 15-133 (11.3%), G Bradley 13-104 (12.5%). ● FAVOURITES: 197 wins from 5% races (38.2%).

12.30 CENTENARY NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £8,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £5,576

attorwerds. River Bey must have a chance getting the weight, while Jim Old's Maundalay, a first-lence casualty at Taunton, is more Bely to cause an upset than the other pair.

Selection: EDGEMOOR PRINCE

1.00 BEECH ROAD HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS B) £12,000 added 2m 5f Penalty Value £8,091

GOING: Good to Soft (Soft in places).

Left-hand, galloping course with stiff fences. Uphili run-in of 240yd.

1.35 STEEL PLATE TRIAL HURDLE (CLASS C) C4
26,500 added 4YO 2m 1f Penalty Value £4,622 

ann, Kingdom Emperot, 25-1 Dromes, wessern unreFORM GUIDE

Martin Pipe gives VENT D'AOUT a taste of Cheltenham on the run-up to a tilt at the 
Trumph Hurdie, which is sponsored by the fifty's owners. Vent D'Aout has galloped through 
tasting ground to win in great style at Hereford and Leicester, and an impressive performance today could well see her emerge as the stable's number one for the Trumph 
over stablemate Rainwatch. Walk On By, a maiden on the level, can have tittle chance 
on form after the hurdles second to Prenze Minstrel at Windsor - that writter being threshed 
by the Pipe filty at Hereford. Kingdom Emperor beat Prairie Minstrel only narrowly at 
Ludlow, but he has run well in defeat since with a penalty against Sad Mad Bad and 
Virtuoso. Assaitable makes his hurdles debut for Neville Calaighan after two good shownigs in meidens on the Flat. Bought out of Alec Stewart's yard for 34,000 gins, Assaiable is an interesting recruit, along with Devillish Charm, a stablemate of wirming youngster. 
Tough Act, and in the same yard as when he beat Alpine Parither in a 14-fullong handicap at Haydock in September. The ex-Luca Cumant trained Shadiann looks sure to 
do a lot better after a debut run at Sandown where he faded badly before the second 
last flight.

## 2.10 B) £12,000 added 4m 1f Penalty Value £8,036 L

dock, is without a clarmer this time which means use it is may the write that counting the suith last, meets him on 7th better terms. For all that SLIDEOFHILL gets the nod. This gelding is getting better all the time and, after staying on so well to win at Sedgefield and Ludlow, he ran a stomer with a big weight against the progressive Mister Blake over this trip at Bangor - Jong O'Neil's charge unfucidly coming to great at the second last. Needless to say, this is a stronger race but Sideofhill has the stamma to take all the beating. Kendal Cavaller, who was with floty Balding last season, was a nounce winner at Chepstow in October and, after two subsequent creditable efforts (one on this course) he books just the type to go well. Turning Triv's stablemate Baronet, third in the Scottish National, is capable of improving a lot on two poor showings this term. The mare Carole's Crusader best Sir Leonard a neck at Towcester last time and may not be good enough here. There are reservations about Danger Baby after the narrow detest by Brave Highlander at Wincarnton or Boung Day, while Stimpson and Woodlands Boy are others likely to be found wanting. Beaurepaire would seem held by Danger Baby on the Wincarton form, but he does stay well and could surprise with Seamus Durack booked.

2.45 UNICOIN HOMES SPA HURDLE (CLASS B) C4 \$29,000 added 3m 110yds Penalty Value £6,156 

BETTING: 2-1 Mighty Moss, 11-4 Go-Informal, 7-2 Ocean Hawk, 4-1 Tumpole, 6-1 Conquering

GO-INFORMAL, ridden from the front when well beaten behind Paddy's Return at Ascot 12 days ago, is likely to be held up today - as he was when he outstayed Antapoura
in the soft at Newbury. He has an 8th penalty to dely, but still looks up to outstaying
Ocaan Hawk in this ground. Ocean Hawk has always esemed more effective on a
fester surface and looks beatable even effer his good run against Pinchvell at Ascot.

Mightly Mosa is a cracking sort who ran well on his reappearance here even if he failed
to confirm festival form with Daraydan. He should get he needed good pace today
with Ocean Hawk in the Ried. Tumpole looks to be in the grip of the handlcapper, but
he's unpenalised for this and the Cesarewitch winner is not out of it. Conquering Leader.
a taller in the Stayers' Hurdle last season, failed to win over fences beforehand. This
bugh, mud-loving mare may not be good enough.

Selection: GO-INFORMAL

3.20 SPORTING INDEX SELECT (CROSS COUNTRY) CHASE (CLASS B) £12,500 added 3m 1f £8,609 C4 

BETTING: 13-8 Irlah Stamp, 7-4 McGregor The Third, 7-2 Stampy Sauce, 7-1 Find Out More, 14-1

FORM GUIDE

With the ground softer and trin shorter IRISH STAMP can best McGregor The Third this time. McGregor The Third had his fevoured fast ground when he whizzed round the comers to best irish Stamp by 18 lengths last year. He was forced to miss this year's renewal and he's been unlucky with the change in the weather, Irish Stamp, who meets McGregor The Third on 18th better terms, also hendles these twist and turns well. This shorter this is more up his street. Stampy Seuce up with the pace throughout when a cracking fourth to Fritysevanchannals, looks sure to go well again over this shorter trip, and he meets Irish Stamp on the same terms. Fellow Irish raider Find Out More is a winning pointer.

Selection: IFISH STAMP

3.55 BARING BINGHAM HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS B) £9,000 added 2m 5f 110yds Penalty Value £5,992 

Kershi has a job on here after a warm-up run over his wrong trip at Doncaster. MOOR-ISH loved the mud on the level with Paul Cole and the the same story over hurdes. Fitter for his run here behind Relevel, he looks sure to take some beating with the stable back in form – and this is his proper trip after his fine second to Brave Tornado in a hot handicap at Chepstew less season on his first attempt since the switch from John White's yard. Princeful returns to the scene of his festival second to Shadow Leader. A big tancy for the Sandown handicap won by Major Jame. Princeful ran well enough in tourth. Totally at home in muddy conditions, Princeful must have a chance now hels up in distance. Blast Preeze might well have beaten Dual Image first time up last season at Doncaster but for falling two hurdes out.

Selection: MOORISH

### **Dunwoody may ride Court**

Richard Dunwoody last night in the Bob Cratchit Novice emerged as front runner to Chase only to be demoted to take over the ride on Ladbroke second at a subsequent inquiry favourite Commanche Court for interfering with Melstock from Norman Williamson, who Meggie. picked up a ban at Warwick yesterday. Dunwoody is trainer ment on the ban which covers Ted Walsh's first choice to be 9, 10 & 12 January - the midoffered the mount, provided Williamson decides not to lodge Leopardstown fixture. But he an appeal against his Warwick phoned Walsh to break the

Williamson was stood down for three days for careless riding on Avanti Express, who had finished first past the post

CATTERICK

3.25 Fen Terrier

HYPERION

12.50 Key Grip 1.20 Panooras Lord 1.55 Prime Example 2.25 Quick March 2.55 Dual Image

GOBIG: Good to Soft (Good in places).

Left-hend course, undulating and sharp. Not suitable for the long-stricting horse. Run-In 240yds.

Course is NW of fown on A6136. Carlington station 14m - bus service to course. ADMISSION: Culo S11; Tattersals £7; Course £250 (under 18s free into all enclosures). CAR PARIK: Reserved area £2, remainder Free.

LEADING TRAINERS: Mrs M Reveley 18-83 (217%). M Hammond 2-107 (122%). K Morgan 9-40 (225%). G M Moore 9-71 (127%).

LEADING JOCKEYS: P Niven 24-94 (286%). R Garritty 16-87 (18-4%). A S Smith 13-85 (20%). A Dobbin 12-95 (126%).

B FAVOURITES: 173-340 (33.2%).

© FAVOURITES: 13-340 (33.29).

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Chipaleta (12.50, Canadian Fantaay (viscred) (12.50, Whitegate's Son (visored) (12.0), Charming
Admiral (2.25) Fassar (2.26)

12.50 HURDLE (CLASS F) £2,000 added 2m

Minimum weight, 10st True herdicap weight: Chiplate 8st 73lb.
BETTRIG: 11-4 Poins Duty, 3-1 Key Grip, 9-2 Monfs, 7-1 George Dilling-turn, 8-1 Meadow Blee, 10-1 Fortone Herder, 12-1 Canadian Furtasy, 14-1 lily Miseila, 25-1 Robielare, 33-1 Others.

1.20 CINDERELLA SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) \$2,000 added 4YO 2m

GEASSHOUSE (F186) R Woodhouse 10 12 \_\_\_\_\_\_ B Storey

8 Gratten (5)

- 8 declared 8ETTING: 11-4 Hever Golf Charmer, 3-1 Denton Lad, 4-1 Good Day, 5-1
Glasshouse, 8-1 Witskip, 10-1 Textbad, 14-1 Whitagata's Son, 29-1
Pancoras Lad

1.55 ROBINSON CRUSOE MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) £3,000 added 3m 1f 110yds

- 11 declared

PETER PIPER NOVICE HANDICAP

rois

NECAP (CLASS

g gegen galak galak di Pagera P Tengera B di Pagera P

194 | National | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 | 1944 |

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IANDICAP CLASS

\$6.50 Dec (1986) . \$2.00 (1986) .

Series Deer Committee Deep Committee

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Williamson declined to comdle day ruling him out of the news. Walsh said: "The race is 10 days away and I'm sure there will be riders available." Ladbrokes aiming to buy

Coral, business: page 19

CHELTENHAM 1.35: Vent d'Aout has obvious claims but SHADIANN looks each-way value. He dropped right back before the straight at Sandown last time, but indicated he will make the grade over hurdles. 

2.10: Turning Trix would have excelient claims on his form early last season but has struggled lately to recapture that old sparkle. Court Melody finished 24 lengths in front of David Nicholson's runner at Haydock 12 days ago and should certainly do so again despite being ilb worse off now. But DANGER BABY can take the prize home to Pembrokeshire. This nine-year-old has been highly consistent this

- 15 deciared -BETTING: 5-4 Prime Example, 7-2 Baby Jeke, 7-1 Claysells, 8-1 Santa Jol, 12-1 Giverneysurhand, 14-1 Allerbank, 20-1 Lord Pat, 25-1 Milheu-

2.25 MOTHER GOOSE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS E) £2,500 added 2m 3f

BETTING: 2-1 Noble Nomen, 5-2 Charming Admiral, 4-1 Fastan, 8-1 Gen-eral Academy, 10-1 Arm Arten, 12-1 Quick Merch, Dounybrook, 20-1 Eas-tic, Lunar Dencer, 25-1 Our Carol, 40-1 others

2.55 HANS CHRISTIAN ANDERSON H'CAP CHASE (CLASS D) £5,000 added 2m

4 544603 REVE DE VALSE (15) (CD) R Jonson il 100 C McComsett (5)

- 4 declared 
Minimum weight: 10st Nice handcap weight: Reve De Vage Sc 131
BETTING: 6-5 Amsbranch, 9-4 Duel Image, 5-2 Cumbertand Blues, 25-1
Reve De Valee

3.25 JACK AND THE BEANSTALK HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £3,500 added 2m

Minimum weight: 10st. True handicap weight: Encolin 9st 7b SETTUNC: 6-4 Fen Terrier, 100-30 Telethards, 6-1 Tenseeq, 13-2 Ericolin 8-1 Catherine's Choice, 10-1 Commander Glan, 25-1 Bunges Jumper

2.30 WIGSTON HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) £7,500 added 2m 4f 110yds

GLEBE HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D)

3.30 £5,000 added 2m 4f 110yds

Shadow Leader has a choice of targets ear

### HYPERION'S TV TIPS

term, including a close third at Haydock (3m4f) in November to Dom Samurai and Him Of Praise. Those two have since shown themselves to be among the most improved stayers in training this season.  $\Box\Box\Box$ 

2.45: Conquering Leader is highly regarded by his stable but has so far proved frustrating for his supporters. Mighty Moss certainly has the class to win this event but on this course three weeks ago his amateur

rider failed to get the best out of this talented seven-year-old. GO-INFORMAL was funcied to succeed at Ascot last time but weakened after being asked to set too strong a pace. More patient tactics may be rewarded today. This chestnut could better on today's left-handed track.

3.20: McGregor The Third is a specialist over this cross-country course. However, he could prove vulnerable to IRISH STAMP, who also proved adept to this unusual track when finishing fifth, beaten less than six lengths, to Fittysevenchannels (3m7f) here in November. He held every chance until fading two obstacles from home. Today's trip (3m1f) is more within his compass

### WINDSOR

**HYPERION** 12.50 Sounds Like Fun 1.25 Shepherds Rest 2.00 Rectory Garden 2.35 Barford Sovereign 3.05 Colonel Blazer 3.35 Skycab

GOING: Good to Soft ● Figure-of-eight course Level with sharp turns, long straights and a 200yd run-in Course is north of town on A306 near junction 6 of M4 Sta Ocurse is north of town on A306 near junction 6 of M4 Stations at Windsor Central (service from London Paddington) and Watgsor Riverside (service from London Waterloo) fm River bus stops at course ADMISSION: Cab E14 Tattersalis £10 Silver Fing & CAR PARK: Cab £2 remander £1 LEADING TRAINERS: K Bailey 14-55 (255%) N Henderson & T(25%) Miss H Knight 5-51 (57%) € Brooks 6-27 (202%) € LEADING JOCKEYS: M A Fitogradid (2-57 ±21%) M Richards 3-75 (22%) J F Titley 6-37 ±16.2%, D Gallagher 6-44 (36%) € FAVOURITES: £5-236 (33%) R INKERED FIRST TIME: Wentworth (335)

BLINKERED FIRST TIME: Wentworth (3:35)

### 12.50 NEW YEAR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS D) \$5,000 added 2m 5f

1	-	25.75	PHILATELIC (42) (D) R Amer 7 th 5	A Thomtor
1	7	37.2	SOUNDS LIKE FUN (19) Mas H Magra 7 7 5	J F Titley
1	3	3.75	BURO FORUM (16) J Girtter (17) 12	P Hide
1	•	32	HUM 'N' HAW (28) A M Newton-Strath 7-10-12	2nd pre
ı	5	2:=65	NORDIC SPREE (45) (D) G L Youre 6 ゼ に	J FI Kavanagi
1	ē	655	CHURCHTOWN CHANCE (17) 6 Poptiam 5 To	7 S Wynne
1	-	57.53	WREN WARBLER (15) Was P Roceson 8 10 7	M Richards
1			- 7 declared -	
	B	TING	11-8 Sounds Like Fun, 11-4 Philatelic, 7-2 Eur	o Forum. 10-

Charaktown Chance, 12-1 Northic Spree. 14-1 Wren Wi

1	.25	CHEVELEY PARK STUD NE DAY HANDICAP HURDLE ( \$5,000 added 2m	W YEAR'S CLASS D)
1: :	-52	FLORID (USA) (54) (D) CErce/s 7 7 79	G Bradley
2 3	2.2	TAKEAMENIO (12) (D) @ Sherwood 5 ft 1	J A McCarthy
3	27F-1	HALONA (28) (CD) C Months : TO TO	D Gallagher
4	€ 22≣-	SOVEREIGNS PARADE (331) (D) N overs	ಸ€ % ≎
			J R kavanagh
≞ 2	22.03	SHEPHERDS REST (17) (D) \$ Malor 6 % 2	C Webb (5)
		SADLER'S REALM (5) (D) F HERES E 11.	2nd pref
		DIEGO (13) (D) 14 Forest 7 17 1	X Aizpuru (5)

5 PTCCC ALMAPA (S) (D) PTCCCSS 6 T > B declared - Virginian weight (Got Tue sandout veight Almade is BETTING: 7-4 Habota, 7-2 Shepherds Rest, 4-1 Takea

2.00 BERKSHIRE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS D) 25,000 added 3m

1 F3435 SEOD RIOGA (41) (D) 5 Metc 9 10 5 C Webb (5) 2 227 RECTORY CARDEN (12) (D) 7 Forsa 9 11 2) JA McCarthy 2 28-2 MALWOOD CASTLE (10) (C) (D) (B) 9 After 5 11 5 A Thorriton

4-48PU HAWAIIAN YOUTH (22) (C) (D) G McCourt 10 11 5 Mr D Harney (7) 21.P.F PROFESSOR STRONG (33) P Nichols 10 11 3 G Bradley (25): STRONGSAVER (276) C Brooks 2 10 9 G Bradley

#### EXETER

1.10 EXETER RUGBY CLUB NOVICE H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS E) £3,000 added 2m 2f

1.40 KENNFORD SELLING H'CAP HURDLE (CLASS G) £2,400 added 2m 2f

50-P3 MUSICAL MONARCH (27) (CD) N Hawler 12 in 13 A P McCov 0POU-3 COLETTE'S CHOICE (27) G Ham 9 in 4 , Sophie Mitchel (5) 40PO-4 DORWY THREE (6) 6 Hodges 6 to 3 B Powell 836-P MUTAWALI ((RE) (17) R Baker 8 to 12 G Shenkin (7)

1 50-P3 MUSICAL MONARCH (27) (CD) In Habber (1 13 A Packey
2 0POU-3 COLETTES CHOICE (27) G Ham 9 III 4 . Sophile Mitchell (5)
3 40PO-4 DORMY THREE (6) 9 Hodge 6 TO 3
4 1856-P MUTAWALI (RRE) (17) 8 Raiser 8 TO 12
5 40-305 ROLL AGAM (10) M Saleman 7 TO 11 . S McNear V
5 40-305 ROLL AGAM (10) M Saleman 7 TO 11 . S McNear V
6 UT-360 ALICE'S MIRRIOR (17) (10) in Behop 9 TO 10 . L Harvey 8
7 630 VEILED DANCER (RRE) (71) 9 Frost 5 TO 10 M A Holdsworth 10 S MCNear V
10 10 10 M A Holdsworth 10 M A Holdsworth 10 S MCNear V
10 0 604P REMEMBER STAR (332) A D Smith 5 TO 1 . Cummins (5) 10 M FPO4 ALBERT THE LION (RRE) (24) Mercle 6 TO 1 . Cummins (5) 12 P24-27 PARISIAN (28) J Bennett 13 TO 0 . R Studholme (7) 13 P0PU - CHALCIJCHIMA (28) N Hawke 5 TO 0 . R Greene (7) 14 GOPP LADY PENDRAGON (65) N Smith 9 TO 0 . R Massey (3) 15 PFP-50 KURBY MOORSIDE (70) D Minty 7 TO 0 . Massey (3) 15 PFP-50 KURBY MOORSIDE (70) D Minty 7 TO 0 . Massey (3) 16 PFP-50 KURBY MOORSIDE (70) D Minty 7 TO 0 . C Masside 17 Depth 10 To 10 Domy Three Roll Again (14 Alawarsian Welder) Domother Choice, 5-1 Court Bethard. 11-2 Musical Monarch, 6-1 Albert The Lion, Mutawaral, Remember Star, 20-1 others

HYPERION

1.10 Walter's Destiny 1.40 Musical Monarch 2.10 Joliver 2.40 Rainbow Star 3.10 In The Blood 3.40 Sadler's Realm

GOING: Heavy (Soft in places)

Organization of the process of the

2.10 RICHARD MERTON FINAL MANAGE-MENT YEAR NOVICE CHASE (CLASS C) £7,000 added 2m 7f 110yds 3-1F15 MENESONIC (27) (C) (D) R Ainer 8 TI 12 . 0-5U/IP GRANGE COURT (37) (D) I Williams 8 11 7 ... 5311 JOLIVER (28) M Pipe 10 11 7 ...

2 0-5UTP GRANGE COURT (27) (D) I Williams 8 ti 7 R Greene
3 53m 1 JOLIVER (28) M Pipe ti 0 ti 7 A P McCoy
4 10-129 THE PROMS (19) (D) N Nexton-Davies 7 ti 7 C Moude V
5 Fitt-1 TORDUFF EXPRESS (18) (D) P Nichols 7 ti 7 Mr J Tizzard (S)
6 CP. HAN LIN E (300) M Coombe (D ti 0 Miss M Coombe
7 P066-2 PENNYMOOR PRINCE (27) R Frost 9 ti 0 J. J Frost
5 5-41-F CHURCHTOWN CHANCE (17) (D) C Pophara 8 ti 9 2nd praf
9 3-563 FORTYTWO DEE (IRE) (17) N Smith 8 ti 9 2 M Sharratt
- 9 declared BETTING: 6-4 Joliver, 9-4 Rorduff Express, 11-2 Grange Courz, 13-2
Menesonic, 12-1 The Proms, 16-1 Pennymoor Prince, 20-1 others

THURLESTONE HOTEL HURDLE

(CLASS E) £3,000 added 4YO 2m 2f		
1 PS 020 SOUTHERN CHEEF (46) (CD) W G M Turner 11 5 J Power (7) B		
2 10 TOM TABLOR (GER) (40) D Elsworth 11.5 P Holley		
3 521 CIRCLE OF MAGIC (35) M Proe 11 0 D Ruhrmann B		
5 COPPER SHELL (47) A P Jones 10 12		
5 50 HADIDI (20) C Mann 10 12		
6 35 PALAEMON (46) G Bailding 10 12		
T P PRIMERO (17) A Barrow 10 E Sophie Mitchell (5) B		
5 3562 RAINBOW STAR (FR) (46) M Pipe 10 12 A P McCoy		
9 HAPPY GO LUCKY (F69) M J Weeden 10 7		
10 36 KASTERLEE (FR) (29) (BF) M Pipe 10 7		
- 10 declared -		
SETTING: 6-4 Rainbow Star. 11-4 Tora Tallor, 11-2 Carde Of Manic, 7-1.		

Palaemon, 10-1 Copper Shell, 14-1 Kasterize, Southern Chief, 16-1 Happy Go Lucky, 33-1 Primero THURIESTONE HOTEL HANDICAL

1	<i>y</i> v	CHASE (CLASS E) £4,500 added 2m 2
1	2310	JASON'S BOY (10) (CD) J M Bradley B ft 10A P McCo
2	6,2223	IN THE BLOOD (IRE) (13) P Hotos 7 tt 4 C Maud
3	2-5505	BIT OF A TOUCH (28) R Frost 12 11 0 J Frost
÷	2F3-0F	PURBECK CAVALIER (6) (CD) R Ainer 9 to 12 P Holiz
5	5P-00°	MISTRESS ROSIE (17) M +91 11 10 6 Mr M Frith (7)
BE	TTING:	10-11 in The Blood, 15-9 Jason's Boy, 6-1 Purbeck Cavalle A Touck, 20-1 Mistress Rosie

3.40 HMS EXETER HANDICAP HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,200 added 2m 3f 110yds 

BETTING: 7-4 Sacier's Realin, 7-2 Kiniohio, 4-1 Airei Sok II, 8-1 Hand Lass, High Low, 10-1 D'Naan, 12-1 Chickabiddy

### LEICESTER

HYPERION 12.55 Ganpati 1.25 Logical Step 2.00 O My Love 2.30 Clare Man 3.00 The Cockertoo 3.30 Cassio's Boy

GOBNG: Hundles - Heavy; Chases - Good to Soft.

Pright-hand, undulating course. Pun-in of 250yds.

Course is 2m SE of city off A6. Leicester station (London, St Pancras - Sheffield line) 2m, ADMRSSION: One enclosure 19 (CAPs CS, Free racecards, CAR PARK: Free Saver Ring Car Park - 212

Ashinis of and fore couplains:

LEADING TRANSPS: M Pipe 16-68 (23.5%), D Nicholson 13-51 (25.5%), N Handerson 9-29 (31%), N Twiston-Davies 8-32 (25%), ELEADING JÜCKEYS: G Bradley 6-30 (20%), D Bridgwater 6-45 (13.3%), J R Kavaragh 3-32 (84%), G Hogan 2-22 (81%).

FAVOURITES: 88-27 (34.2%).

BLRICERED FIRST TIME: O My Love (200), The Reverand Bert (visored) (230), Portune Secret (visored) (3.30). 12.55 HUMBERSTONE NOVICE HURDLE (CLASS D) £4,000 added 2m 4f 110yds

1 1-13 CASTLE OWEN (36) (8F) 0 Nicholson 6 11 6 R Thomston
5 THOS KNOCK STAR (29) T 88 7 11 6 Gary Lyone
7 PLEAD STORY (14) M Senie 5 11 6 Lemmans
1 1-40 Relateling SAM (27) G Belding 6 11 6 B Ferdon
28) S GAMPATI (22) N Teighton-Davies 7 11 T. Jordas
1 64(29) "MY BLACKERIO (47) M Brackhock 6 11 1 G Hogan (3)
7 64 HELBACH BOY (12) J Feerce 4 10 7 J Fryen
28 JAZZ TBACK (12) M Fige 4 10 7 Mr G Billott (6)
8 declared

1.25 NEW YEAR NOVICE HANDICAP CHASE (CLASS E) £4,000 added 2m 1f 1 UR-OP PERSIAN CLITE (8) C Egarton 7 2 0 B Fenton B
2 G34P-4 LOGICAL STEP (12) D Gardello 8 11 0 R Thorrison
3 PO-PIP PLAY GAMES (18) (0) (8F) R Lee 10 10 0 GHopan (5)
4 30542 EUROLINK SHADOW (241) D McCain 8 10 0 T Jenks

2.00 PARSLEY SELLING HURDLE (CLASS G) E2,500 added 2m

3.00 FORD MAIDEN CHASE (CLASS F) 5 JOLI GOOD RIM M Primari 7 TI 5 Larmings
3 (0.P. ORIENTAL BOY (1.4) Rice 6 TI 5 G. Hogar (3)
4 RT-P THE COCKETIOO (17) RANS 7 TI 5 J. Fenton
F ACCOUNTANCY LADY (28) M Pipe 8 TI 0 Mr R Burton (7)
434-P PO CAP EEL (28) T R Krissy 8 TI 0 Mr R Burton (7)
-9 declared -

BETTING: 9-4 Accountancy Lady, 5-2 Calleva Star, 7-2 Hum 'N' Haw, 8-1
The Cockwitzo, 10-1 Pashlon Maker, 12-1 Joby Good Fun, 16-1 Oriental
Boy, 20-1 Inch Champion, 33-1 Po Cap Eal

= a cascasses = a Casalio Cwan, 3-1 Jusz Track, 4-1 Gampad, 10-1 Knock Star, Rambillog Sam, 12-1 My Blackbird, 25-1 Haudach Boy, 33-1 Lead Stary 

- 4 declared -ekst: 10st. True handicap weights: Play Germes Bst 11th, Eurobisk Shadow Bat 13th. BETTING: 7-4 Play Games, 9-4 Persian Eller, 5-2 Logical Step. 6-1 Eurobek

1 20 BRIGHSTONE (SS) (827) M Ppc 5 11 20 Mr G Elsion (5)
2 P. CROACH PATRICK (7242) J Fox 6 11.5 S Fox
3 45534 JUST FOR A REASON (6) (D) R Juckes 6 11.5 Gary Lyons
4 PP DAFFOOR EXPRESS (F14) M Ryen 5 11.0 Mr Hiller (7)
5 45-3PO 0 Mr LOVE (78) N Betbago 7 11.0 Mr Hiller (7)
6 SP CHALL BOOM (722) R Simpson 4 10.2 D Bridgester
1 6 declared - 6 declared - 12.1 O My Love. 20-1 - 6 declared -BETTING: 1-3 Brightstone, 11-4 Just For A Reeson, 12-1 O My Love, 20-1 Defined Express, 53-1 others

ly in 1998 as he continues his build-up towards the Champion Hurdle. He could next run at Haydock on 24 January or Sandown on 7 February. Trainer Charlie Egerton said: "Shadow Leader could go for the Champion Hurdle Trial at Haydock or the Agfa Hurdle at Sandown. But if the ground is bad he might have to wait for the Kingwell Hurdle at Wincanton at the end of February before going to Cheltenham.

A traditional cop out for sports columnists at this time of the year is to look back on the events of recent history. There are various ways of addressing an absolutely dependable chore but none of them appeal to me personally.

Presuming to be still of sound mind, I flinch from attempting to appear witty or wise on the perch provided by this newspaper.

You see, the trouble for people of my age is that something happens to the eyesight, as you get older, which opticians may know about but never mention. We may see clearly enough but the images become subject to preference and upbringing.

Opinion fosters a generational conflict but all sports watchers should consider the possibility that they are seeing what they want to see rather than what is actually happening.

The year we have stepped from provided plenty of opportunities, accepted gleefully by newspapers and broadcasting networks, for leaping in with subjective judgements that proved, and could prove, embarrassing in retrospect.

A claim advanced for the Premier League last year is a good example of what I am going on about. My eyes may be up to their tricks again but where is the evidence to suggest that England's flagship tournament is unmatched for quality? Despite the incessant trumpeting of its paymasters, Sky television, what are we really looking at? Excitement certainly and gifted individuals who set the pulse

racing. But for most teams beneath Manchester United the object is to secure status through effort and determination. English football's pseudo-intellectuals are unlikely to agree but the levelling off is downwards not upwards.

Hartmut Scherzer is a German sportswriter. A friend, I encounter him regularly at the big fights, World Cups, Olympic Games, international sweat festivals of every kind. Last Monday he came over with two colleagues to watch Jürgen Klinsmann reappear in the colours of Tottenham Hotspur against Arsenal. To their minds it was a pretty awful match in which only Dennis Bergkamp, David Ginola and Klinsmann looked like proper footballers.



As a Christmas treat, one of Scherzer's colleagues brought along his 12-year-old son. Afterwards, turning to his father, the boy asked. Why don't they play football in England?" It's a question Alan Sugar and his cohorts might like to

Watching Tiger Woods lay waste to Augusta National in last year's Masters, even people who should have known better leaned immediately to the conclusion that he was sure to surpass Jack Nicklaus's record of 19 major championships to become the greatest golfer in history. So much money poured in on the possibility of Woods wirming the Grand Slam that the odds became ridiculous. Did Woods win the Masters because he struck peak form on a course set up perfectly for his unquestionable talent? We shall see but his subsequent failures in the US Open, The Open, the US PGA championship and the Ryder Cup left plenty of people dangling in the trap of instant conclusion.

Perhaps it was my eyes playing up

again but I could have swom that Brazil were seldom flat out when inflicting England's only defeat in the Tournoi de France last summer. Maybe England, in a World Cup year. will be up to the standard Glenn Hoddle and many of his compatriots imagine but experience suggests caution at the betting windows.

Keen observation was important to the assessment of Naseem Hamed, who became convinced last year that no featherweight in history could have lived with him. Head up, hands down in defiance of tenets that most boxing trainers hold sacrosant, Hamed was inviting a smack on the chin. Kevin Kelley obliged. Three times before succumbing to Hamed's natural speed

Following victory in the first Test last summer, the England and Wales Cricket Board chairman, Lord MacLaurin, put it about that Mike Atherton's team could well be the best performing presently. This was entrapment of the highest order and three defeats later, a boost for the optical industry.

Many innocent years ago, I was advised that eyes can deceive even the best judges of horseflesh. Possessing no expertise in such matters, bore the instruction in mind when choosing to ignore Entre-preneur's brilliant victory in the 2,000 guineas as a pointer to the Derby. My money was on Silver Patriarch, who finished second to Benny the Dip. There endeth the

### A walk into dreamland for Whelan

Dave Whelan and Blackburn Rovers. The FA Cup has a happy knack of merging past and present, the little and the large. When Wigan Athletic turn out at Ewood Park on Saturday, their chairman will have both pride and painful memory swirling within him.

Whelan, one of the country's richest men as the owner of JJB Sports, is the chairman of Wigan, but does not hide his feelings for Blackburn. He has a box at Ewood Park and admits the club that Jack Walker built is the template he will use for are deeper ties, though, that go back to the 1950s.

He signed for Rovers at 17. and was a first-team regular when Blackburn made it to the 1960 FA Cup final. What should have been one of the great days of his life turned out to be little short of disastrous.

press christened it the "Dustbin Final" and Wolves, who won 3-0, were pelted with apple cores and drinks cartons as to play like them, attacking they went up to accept the tro- football with two wingers. I'm phy. Blackburn, who had been pleased for him that we're goscorn of supporters because they were tearing themselves to pieces internally, as Derck Dougan had submitted a transfer request an hour before the kick-off.

It was a sorry occasion all round, but Whelan was saddest of them all. A few minutes before half-time he was caught by a bad challenge from Norman Dooley and had his leg broken in three places. He made a comeback two years later, broke the leg again, and effectively his career was over bar a couple of seasons with Crewe.

As it happened his premature retirement proved to be his making and, at 61, the comparisons with him and Walker next week on Whelan's new sta-team. dium, which will ultimately be home to Athletic and the town's sporting institution, the rugby or five months when the press league club where he also has a financial interest. Like Uncle Six or seven players were there Jack of Ewood, he is deter- and they asked the chairman if get as little as possible in death with them. We were doing quite duties.

ever since the draw was made," tremendous display.

FA CUP COUNTDOWN



BY GUY **HODGSON** 

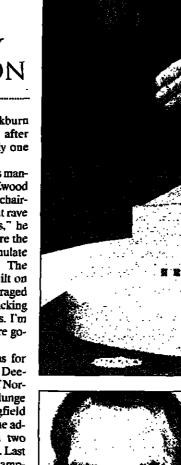
his own ambitious plans. There he said this week. "Blackburn are a great club and, after Wigan Athletic, the only one

John Deehan, Wigan's manager, can testify to the Ewood admiration society. "The chairman has done nothing but rave about Blackburn Rovers," he said. "He believes they are the The match was so poor the club we should try and emulate as much as possible. The ground is going to be built on their lines and I'm encouraged

It was Whelan's plans for Wigan that persuaded Deehan, a former manager of Norwich City, to take the plunge into dilapidated Springfield Park, and it is clear that the admiration has withstood two years of working together. Last spring's Third Division championship and trebled gates helped, of course, but so has the chairman's enthusiasm to continue to finance the club.

"You sometimes dismiss former players when you hear them talk." Deehan said. "You think they're dreaming a little bit. I've done my homework and he could play. He was a very bright prospect and he could have challenged for the leftare inevitable. Work begins back's position in the England

"There was an occasion when I'd been at the club four came down to do some filming. a complicated routine with a That is the future. For the player in the middle of the cirmoment there is the tie of his cle, and although he had a suit very, very good footballer." dreams. "I've been excited on and he was 59 he gave a



Dave Whelan, Wigan Athletic's chairman, shows off a model of the JJB Stadium (above), which forms a central part of his ambitious plans for the Second Division club. His hopes of exploiting his obvious potential as a full-back disappeared (right) when he broke his leg while playing in Blackburn's 3-0 defeat by Wolves in the 1960 FA Cup final. John Deehan (left) is the manager charged with developing the team to match the chairman's plans off it.

Main photograph: Wigan News; Right: Photographic News Agency.

on Saturday.

Using numbers (7)

Most unusual (13)

Top prize (7)

Stimulus (4)

13 Amount in bank ac-

18 Expensive (4) 19 Mendacious person

Rubble (6)

count (7)

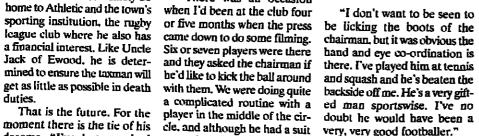
14 Plain to see (7)

12 Settle (6)

16 Damp (5)

**DOWN** 

Tidy (4)



Deehan has his own moment



Walker at Norwich, who were top of the Premier League and through two tricky ties - York expecting to widen the gap at Ewood Park. They lost 7-1 and want another small one or a retheir momentum was halted, ally big club. I'm going to enjoy more. the day and I'll tell the players some would say terminally. He hopes there will not be a repeat to do the same."

"If I had been a Premier was Wigan's first for seven weeks can seem like an eterni-

burn. In October 1992, he was said it was a bad draw, but for the Second Division could be walk out on to that pitch with assistant manager under Mike us its good," he said. "We've better. Deehan's problem is in done the hard work of getting persuading players to come to a club which is heading in the City and Carlisle - so you either right direction - but not as quickly as others who can spend

> "The stadium is two years away, which is a very long time," Sunday's defeat by Carlisle he said. "Ask any manager, two

the new team and the new ground. The chairman's dream is that we'll be in Division One by that time."

For the moment, Whelan is happy with the present. "Sat- the side must only depend on urday will be a proud day," he the goalkeepers' form, and not said. "Despite my affinity for the need for the permit to be re-Rovers, nothing would suit me newed. It's certainly a tricky better than a Wigan win in one. of pain connected with Black- League manager, I would have matches, but their position in ty. I'd love to be there when we front of a packed house."

### Emerson can leave, say Middlesbrough

Middlesbrough have finally admitted defeat in their attempts to hold on to Emerson, and have transfer-listed the wayward Brazilian at £4m, the amount they paid Porto for him last year.

Emerson, who failed to turn up for last Sunday's home game with Stockport, telephoned Boro on Tuesday to tell them he would not be coming back. The 25-year-old midfielder is thought to want to move to the Spanish club Tenerife, who made an inquiry about him before Christmas.

The Benfica coach, Graeme Souness, has signed the Ukrainian midfielder Sergei Kandorov from the Israeli club Maccabi Haifa to link up with the former Manchester United player Karel Poborsky, who has completed his move to the Portuguese club. However, he has failed to sign the Aston Villa striker Savo Milosevic before yesterday's Portuguese transfer deadline. Milosevic turned down the £3.5m move.

Birmingham have become the latest English club to try to sign Ally McCoist on loan. The club's manager, Trevor Francis, confirmed yesterday that he had contacted Rangers.

Chris Waddle's position as Burnley's manager is under threat, with a New York financier poised to buy the Second Division strugglers. The Lancashire-born businessman, Ray Ingleby, now based in America, is bidding to take over the struggling club. Ingleby wants to raise a rights issue in the next few weeks and, if his takeover bid succeeds, he will almost certainly let Waddle go.

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Roy Evans, the Liverpool manager, has admitted that the club may struggle to hang on to their recent signing, Brad Friedel, next season. The American goalkeeper, signed before Christmas after months of wrangling over a work permit, must play in 75 per cent of Liverpool's remaining matches this season to have the permit renewed.

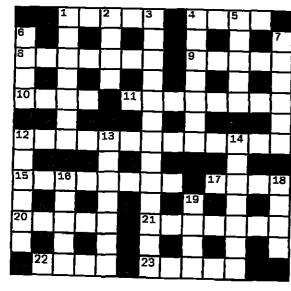
The club had 22 games left when Friedel joined, which means he has to play in 16 to qualify for the new permit. But already Friedel has sat out the first two matches, against Coventry and Newcastle, and appearances only count if the

player actually plays. Evans said: "Who plays in

### **GAMES**

### CONCISE CROSSWORD

No.3496 Thursday 1 January



#### **ACROSS**

- Metaphysical poet
- Evangelist (4)
- Parade in historic costume (7)
- Rebuke (5) 10 Duty roster (4)
- 11 Contributor to the Exchequer (8) 12 Formal discussions
- (13)
- 15 Express dissatisfac-
- tion (8)
- Eager (4) Condescend (5) US state (7) Eyelid swelling (4)

#### Solution to yesterday's Concise Crossword:

ACROSS: 1 Eggshell, 5 Lent (Excellent), 9 Exact, 10 Nullify, 11 Indulgence, 14 Household name, 16 Hospitable, 20 Cruiser, 21 Peril, 22 Bass, 23 All clear. DOWN: 1 Eyesight, 2 Grandeur, 3 Hotel, 4 Lancecorporal, 6 Exit, 7 Toys, 8 Placid, 12 Jamborce, 13 Jeweller, 15 Egoism, 17 Topic, 18 Scab, 19 Fuss.

### POKER: DAVID SPANIER

Adam Hine hit the front Jramatically in the recent tournament week at the Grosvenor Victoria casino in London. He won the £100 pot-limit Hold 'em event, worth £9,702 to the winner, and then showed it was no fluke by winning the £400 no-limit with a first prize of £14,448.

One feature of Adam's play, perhaps surprising in a computer analyst, was a willingness to trust his instincts, as he showed in the first final, against Dave "Devil Fish" Ulliott. "In an earlier hand," Adam explained, "I felt I was going to win it from the start. I was dealt a 10. Sure enough. I paired up. I bet the hand and another player raised me. I could sense he had a strong hand. I decided to re-raise on instinct. I can't really believe what I'm saving, on a rational view. But I did it. And I outdrew his pair of kings."

The turning point against Ulliott showed Adam's subtlety in getting an opponent to

commit himself. Ulliott had 160,000 in chips against his own 68,000. The antes were 4,000 and 8,000. First to speak, Ulliott called. Adam with 6-9 off-suit did not raise. The flop came down 5-7-8, which was a

dream flop for him. The question was how to get his opponent to bet.

Adam checked, Ulliott bet 8,000. Adam called, with a cautious pause - two or three seconds can seem an age in this situation. Next card was another 5. "I just knew, he had trip fives, I don't know how. I wanted to get him to bet it himself. If I checked, he would check. So I bet 15,000. And he raised me 37,000, setting me all-in. Ulliott did indeed have a five. with a low kicker. After this hit, Adam was in command. "You have to maximise your good hands. It's no good just sticking money in on aces. My bet of 15.000 was just right to get him to commit himself." Ulliott was philosophical in defeat: "He played well. No complaints."

#### CHOICE: DANCE

The Nutcracker, The Coliseum, (0171-632 8300) 2.30pm and 7.30pm

From the moment the curtain rises on Derek Deane's new Nutcracker for English National Ballet, you know there is a theatrical mind at work. Instead of the usual punch-pouring and tree-admiring, everyone is frantically partying, and executing a tricksy balletic quickstep to beguile the audience. It's one of those "I'm too trendy for my tree" affairs, all black and

white sophistication and dancing chic to thic. But when Clara is whisked away to the Kingdom of Sweets (ET-style, on a bicycle flying across the moon) witty designer Sue Blane comes up with candy stripes, liquorice allsort tutus and bags of sweeties that glide about like candy-striped Daleks. The rats, however, are not prettified: these vermin are good and scary. If all that were not enticement enough. there's a strong performance of Tchaikousky's superb score, a masterpiece of orchestration-David Beliedica

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### TODAY'S PICK

Video Nation (12.30pm BBC2) A compilation of those funny little films you might have seen while waiting for Newspight. Stimulating and often more topical than Paxman himself, the twominute vignettes feature people talking to camera on Election night, the morning after the death of the Princess of Wales and during the trial of Louise Woodward. Pure, unspun reality.

Storm Over 4 (10pm C4) An early image stands out in this look back at the controversial bits of Channel 4's history. Mary Whitehouse watching television. She whirls in her armchair like a crazy shock-haired pupper, tutting in disgust but bound by some moral imperative to watch the filth before her. This was prompted, no doubt, by shows like The Tube. The Word, and Brookside

- whose pioneering use of swearing to reflect social reality proved unpopular with viewers, so much so that station controller Jeremy Isaacs was forced to take strong action: "The fucks have got to go and the piss offs have got to be restricted". A red warning triangle was later introduced to alert viewers to the sexual content of some films - with the predictable result that ratings doubled.



Tom Hanks in Forrest Gump: 9pm BBC1

### THE FILMS

Forrest Gump (9pm BBC1) The film where it all came together for director Robert Zemeckis. The exuberant energy and innocence of Back to the Future is channelled through that perfect all-American foil, as Tom Hanks, the feeling man's Michael J Fox, plays a lovable dimwit reactionary.

Small Faces (10.35pm BBC2) Lost in a year when the only Scottish film that mattered was Trainspoining, this 1968 Glasgow-set retro-cracker is less stylised and far more threatening as a young boy's future lies with his elder brothers.

7.00 Children's BBC: Poddington Peas (R) (1224178) 7.05 Teletubbles (S) (2033246). 7.30 The Busy World of Richard Scarny (R) (S) (8497975). 7.55 Casper Classics (T) (9015492). 8.15 Mighty Max (R) (S) (9777807). 8.40 The Real Adventures of Jonny Quest (R) (4529371). 9.05 Sweet Valley High (R) (S) (5079623). 9.30 The World of Peter Rabbit and Friends (S)

(76505). 10.00 Teletubbies (S) (24081).

10.30 Film Herble Goes To Monte Carlo (Vincent McEveety 1977 US). Third Disney outing in which the loveable Volkswagen is racing on the European circuit when he talls in love... with a Lancia (76545888).

12.10 NoePs Le Mans Dream (S) (33026-12). 1.00 News; Weather; Regional News (7) (27852178). 1.10 Neighbours (S) (7) (71998826). 1.30 'Children's BBC: Brambly Hedge (R) (S)

(26082).

2.00 Mary Poppins (Robert Stevenson 1964
US). Hugely popular Disney musical fanlasy nominated for an astonishing 13 Oscars, which combines live action with animation. Julie Andrews is the highly unorthodox nanny who takes a job with a straighter-than-straight banker's family in London. "Chim Chim-Cher-ee" waltzed off with the Best Song gong, Julie Andrews won Best Actress Oscar for her Tiggy Legge Bourke while Dick Van Dyke sacked his accent coach that's if he ever had one in the first place (S) (T) (29614449).

4.15 Cartoon (3535401). 4.35 Blue Peter Review of the Year (S) (T) (1767130). 5.05 From Grange Hill to Albert Square... and Beyond (S) (T) (7962975). 5.45 News; Weather (T) (903772).

5.55 Regional News; Weather. (782517). 6.00 The World's Strongest Man - The Final. Traditional New Year's Day fare as Philippa Forrester and Paul Dickenson introduce some seasonal grunting from Nevada. A bloke called Iron Bear Collins leads the American challenge while the event itself is usually won by some hulking Nordic brute with a tache. If you like seeing big geezers dragging trucks around then it's your lucky night (5) (7) (80062).

7.00 Mysteries with Carol Vorderman. The

(made up?) tale of a Second World War soldier who was guided to safety by a man who could not possibly have been there (S) (T) (8623).
7.30 EastEnders. Cindy pleads with lan -1 bet she

does (S) (T) (3). 8.00 Born to Be Wild with Martin Clunes. Martin Clunes assists a team from the Born Free Foundation in the release of a 28-year-old ele-phant, born free in Tanzania but rescued and brought up in a sanctuary following the death of her mother. Quite what form his assistance will

ake\_isn't clear (S) (6739). 9.00 Film Forrest Gump (Robert Zemeckis 1994

(87450361). 11.15 News; Regional News; Weather (7) (489933). 11.35 Faces of Islam (S) (468449). 11.55 Fleetwood Mac - the Dance (S) (T) <u>430</u>307).

Island and agent in 12.55 Film Carry On Abroad (Gerald Thomas 1972 UK). The regulars go on a package holiday to the Spanish resort of Elsbels where they find the hotel half-built and laughs in short supply (7371463)

6.00 Stx O'Clock News 6.30 Smooth Talkers.

6.30 Smooth Talkers.
7.00 News.
7.00 The Archers.
7.20 A Fighing Chance World heavy-weight champion Lennox Lewis has pumped 15 million pounds into a college in Hackney to educate problem teenagers. Classes are small and morale is high. The difference is that they treat you like an adult here, says 16-year-old Martin. But can this experiment in education survive?
8.00 How Music Can Change the Ward.

9.59 Wearner.
10.00 The World Tonight.
10.45 Book at Bedfirme: Playback. By
Raymond Chandler, abridged by
Robert Dodds, read by Angus
Macinnes. "You called her a murderess. That's a strader."

11.09 Arthology. 12.00 News. 12.30 The Late Book: Ghost Stones.

Spurnies to Celiphones, 11.00 News Spurnies to Celiphones, 11.00 News Eutra, 11.30 The Celib Tiger, 22.00 Af-ter Hours, 2.00 Up All Night, 5.00 -6.00 A Test for the Windles.

12.48 Shipping Forecast. 1.00 As World Service. 5.50 Inshare Forecast.

Radio 4 LW

Classic FM

5.55 - 6.00 Shipping Forecast.

World.

8.45 Shelf Lives. Tamagotchi

9.00 Does He Take Sugar?

9.30 Kaleidoscope Feature

9.59 Weather.

2.25-6.40 Joins BBC News 24 (75848918). REGIONS: Scotland 11.15 News; Regional News 1L30-1L35 Resolutions REGIONS: Wales 12.55 Film: Carry On Abroad

7.00 Day of the Pharaohs: The Face of Tutankhamun (R) (S) (6729401). 7.50 Wonderful Things (R) (S) (5757826). 8.40 Everywhere the Glint of Gold (R) (S) (4267081). 9.30 The Pharaoh Awakes (R) (S) (4599081). 10.20 Heads in the Sand (R) (S) (9289326). **11.10** Happy New Year (S) (6445333). **11.15** New Year's Day Concert from Vienna (S) (4051028). **12.30 Video Nation – Best of 97.** See Today's Pick,

above (S) (5152772). 1.20 The Royal Institution Christmas Lectures
- the Magical Maze. The last of the fascinating kiddie-centric science lectures looks at the mathematics of symmetry in nature - find out why tigers have stripes and leopards spots etc

(S) (T) (5234772). 2.20 Day of the Pharaohs: Timewatch (S)

(2534081). Film Cleopatra (Joseph L Mankiewicz 1963 US). Elizabeth Taylor plays the Queen of the Nile with Rex Harrison's Julius Caesar and Richard Burton's Mark Antony as the two loves of her life. A disappointing and overblown rendition with Taylor and Burton having a lot more fun off camera than on, this being the locale for their romance. Harrison turns in a terrific performance, but this lumbering beast of a film never really gets off the ground (7) (24356081).

5.05 Cleopatra Short (S) (2561178). 5.10 Em Cleopatra Concluding half of the epic

patchy drama (7) (99941265). Cleopatra Short. Short film exploring the continuing fascination with the pyramids of an-

cient Egypt (S) (356536). **7.30 Secrets of Lost Empires.** Art Malik talks us through an attempt to recreate the Great Pyramid of Giza, one of the greatest ever feats of engineering and craftsmanship, using only the tools and materials available at the time. Archaeologist Mark Lehner and stonemason Roger Hopkins struggle to build a replica of the First Wonder of the World, manipulating twotonne stone blocks without wheels or pulleys (R)

(S) (T) (470371). 8.20 Cleopatra Short. Another short film, this one about the asp, presenting the poisonous snake in a "good light" - whatever that means (S) (465178).

8.30 The Cleopatra Files. Drama documentary showing an intimate view of Cleopatra, once the cinema's most expensive film, and the love atfair played out on- and off-screen. Based on the correspondence between 20th Century Fox publicists Jack Brodsky and Nathan Weiss. Vinlage gossip, basically (S) (T) (4425) 9.00 Search for the Lost Tomb - KV5.

Documentary about the splendidly-named one of Egypt's lost tombs (S; (T, :781245). 9.50 The Likely Lads. Bob and Thelma are determined to enjoy the Christmas lestivities to

the full (R)-(262197). 10.35 FILM Small Faces. (Gillies Mackinnon 1995 UK) See Today's Films, above (S) (T)

*(*79899888). 12.30 The Umbrellas of Cherbourg (Jaques Demy 1964 Fr/W Gen. A lavish, remartic musical drama, sung throughout to a Michel Legrand score. Catherine Deneuve shines as a 16-year-old girl forced into a loveless mamage because she is pregnant by her absent beed. who is doing national service. Neither mawkish or sentimental, though it could easily have been both (675395). To 2.10am

6.00 GMTV (9380555). 9.25 Film The Srave Little Toaster (Jerry Rees 1987 US). Enjoyable animated yam about a group of intrepid humanised household appliances, led by the toaster (never trust a toaster) who leave their domestic sanctuary and set off on a musical adventure. What's known in the trade as a family movie with some memorable

songs by Van Dyke Parks (S) (T) (2069284). 10.50 Film Disney's Escape to Witch Mountain (Peter Rader 1994 US). Unremarkable made-fortelly remake of John Hough's 1974 fantasy adventure in which two orphaned children with psychic powers come to the unwelcome attention of an unscrupulous local entrepreneur (Robert Vaughn). When things get sticky; the nippers escape and go in search of the mysterious mountain where they were discovered as abies (T) (33672212).

12.30 ITN News; Weather (7) (627-46710).
12.40 The Baldy Man. Silent comedy starring Gregor Fisher and written by Jack Docherty. amongst others (S) (9633062). 1.20 Hollywood's Greatest Stunts (1859352).

2.15 Film The China Syndrome (James Bridges 1979 US). Jane Fonda and Michael Douglas star in an edgy slice of tate Seventies' paranoia about an attempted cover-up at a nuclear power plant An ambitious TV reporter (Fonda) and a cameraman (Douglas) are present at the reactor when a meltdown is averted by a quick-witted engineer (Jack Lemmon). A little self-important in places, but the tension feels real enough and the Oscar-nominated stars are both good value (T) (29622468).

4.30 ITN News; Weather (7) (7063888). 4.40 Film A League of Their Own (Penny Marshall 1992 US). Geena Davis, Madonna and Lori Petty are among the baseball babes coached by a drunken Tom Hanks in a Penny Marshall comedy about America's first all-fernale baseball league in WW2. Davis is her usual excellent self, but the picture as a whole tacks direction and has that yukky sentimental old America feel (S) (T) (86324913j.

7.00 Emmerdale. Marlon is still homeless after being chucked out by the Dingles Paddy tries to do Father Outhwaite a good deed only to receive the "Get off my land" treatment Steve finds out the truth about Kim and the body in the quarry And I thought it was a soap opera about farms (5) (Ti (3791) 7.30 Mr Bean Goes to Town (Ri (S) (81).

8.00 Blues and Twos. Action with Kent's air ambulance service (S) (T) (9739) 8.30 The Bill. A cut from a needle during a struggle

with an addict leaves Boulton with some HIV gnel (7) (8246). 9.00 Taggart (S) (T) (4371) Secombe, Peter O Triple and Roy Hudd defer

charmingly to the ex-Goon (R) (S) (T) (4130) 11.00 ITN News; Weather. (7) (290975). 11.10 Film Haunted Honeymoon (Gene Wilde 1986 US) Misguided comedy spoof shot in a Young Frankenstein style but without Mel-

Brooks's wit (T) (971536). 12.45 Frankie Howerd at His Tittermost. Welcome repeat of the great man's 1991 show at the Birmingham Hippodrome (R) (4983734).

2:10 Dance 97 (9937579) 3.10 Fim Dance Academy (Ted Mather 1987 US/It) Interior Fame rip-off (S) (67469579) 5.30 The Making of A Life Less Ordinary (4525937).

5.55 ITN Morning News (2571376) To 6am

### CHANNEL 4

**6.00 Dumb and Dumber** (R) (S) (7791352). **6.15** Ovide (R) (8607246). **6.40** Madeline (R) (S) (5760284). **7.05** The Babysitters' Club (R) (4612913). 7.35 Two Stupid Dogs (S) (8412284). 8.00 The Big Breakfast (14604). 10.00 Zig and Zag's Big Moming: Happy Days (R) (8087401). 10.35 Zig and Zag's Big Moming: Saved by the Bell: Wedding in Las Vegas (R) (S) (T) (8388333). 11.05 Zig and Zag's Big Morning: Moesha (R) (S) (5539807). 11.30 The Monkees (5194178). 12.05 Zig and Zag's Big Moming: Coping with... (S) (1859178). 12.35 Zig and Zag's Big Morning: Eerie, Indiana (R) (7) (7006081).

1.00 A Dog's Life (R) (S) (27869468).

Channel 4 Racing from Cheltenham (S) (49762604).

The Lord's Prayer. Comedy short starring Roger Lloyd-Pack (Trigger from Only Fools and Horses) as a cricket-mad man making a pilgrimage to Lord's cricket ground (6350420).

4.00 Bewitched (10).
4.30 Countdown. Words and numbers in front of a slumbering studio audience. Hosled by Dicky

W and Vord at the board (S) (T) (94).

The Railway Children (Lionel Jeffries 1972 UK). E Nesbit's book is gloriously realised by director Lionel Jeffries. The young Jenny Agutter is the eldest of three children whose lives change dramatically after their respectable Daddy is jailed on suspicion of treason and they move to a small Yorkshire cottage, near a railway line, among common folk. A wonderfully evocative tale of childhood with both Agutter and a curmudgeonly Bernard Cribbins as the station master outstanding (7)

7.00 Concert of Hope. This syrupy celeb-fest concert was recorded in aid of the Diana, Princess of Wales, Memorial Fund.
Recorded at Battersea Power Station, London on 7 December 1997 and featuring Gary Bar-low and Robbie Williams, in their first public appearance together since Take That split up. As if that wasn't bad enough Peter Andre and Boyzone are there too (1) (3401).

8.00 Desmond's. Michael is promoted to bank manager, and Matthew searches for an act to top the bill at his charity concert (R) (T) (3951). Wet Side Story. Caught on camera - the activities of vampire bats and tree frogs in the

rainforests of Central America. (R) (6888). 9.00 Equinox Special. A new departure from the people at Equinox - a fictional future-set documentary-style drama that asks what the media might be like in 15 years time. John Milne's drama investigates the death of fictitious media mogul Liam Keller (Danny Webb), a Bill Gateslike figure of the new millennium and speculates how the media could develop (1) (2913). 10.00 Storm over 4. See Today's Pick, above (T)

11.00 Fim Last Tango in Paris (Bernardo Bertolucci 1972 lt/Fr). A rejuvenated Marton Brando takes centre stage as a middle-aged American expat in Pans, who finds anonymous sex with Mana Schneider is the best way to get

over his wife's suicide (1) (33788888) 1.25 Film Jubilee (Derek Jarman 1978 UK). Jarman's masterpiece of anarchy. Elizabeth I pays a visit to the future of her sceptred isle - a land of chaos and decay where the punks have inherited the earth (T) (699376).

3.20 Rawhide (175227). 5.20-6.00 Those British

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Dappledown Farm (R) (6610352). 6.30 Wind in the Willows (56655352). 6.50 Mr Men and Little Miss (94982246). 7.00 Wimzie's House (R) (6555401). 7.30 Alvin and the Chipmunks (657-4536). 8.00 Havakazoo (R) (7200130). **8.30** Adventures of the Bush Patrol (R) (S) (7209401). **9.00** Stickin' Around (R) (7223081). **9.30** Wishbone (R) (5838619).

10.00 Enid Blyton - the Secret of Moon Castle. The children encounter a ghostly figure on horseback and are convinced that the castle is haunted, bless them (\$) (75744333). 11.50 Animal Xtremes (43668130). 12.00 The Bold

and the Beautiful (7) (7210517). 12.30 Family Affairs (S) (T) (6382325).

 1.00 5 News Update (S) (75320284).
 1.05 Pop Special: Hanson (T) (58966401).
 1.30 USA High (R) (7732866).
 2.00 Girlfnends (S) (3856710). 2.55 Daria (R) (9871555). 3.20 Daria (R) (1065178). 3.45 Sister Said (35377604). 3.55 Olympic Gods: Zeus and lo

(73158807). 4.10 Xena: Warrior Princess. First half of a Xena double helping - fighting evil warlords first... (R) (S) (8417555).

5.05 Xena: Warrior Princess. ... then she comes across a peaceful town that is under attack by the evil Cycnus and his son, so she commandeers a chanol and squares up to them with her sword (R) (S) (8271246).

6.00 100 Per Cent. Three ionely contestants - with not even Les Dennis for company - face 100 testing general-knowledge questions (S) 6.30 Family Affairs. Elsa and Maria fuss over

Claire. Roy talks to Mel about his plans for the

future. Susie tells Holly that Jack is an alcoholic There, you don't have to watch it now (S) (T) (8227975). 7.00 Polar Bear. Wildlife documentary looking at the graceful great while bear which spends its time lumbering around the icy wastes of the

Arctic (S) (T) (4997555). 8.00 Hospital! Medical drama spool - should the brilliant young brain surgeon forsake the woman he loves to save the life of a patient?

(R) (S) (T) (4973975). 9.00 Film Buffy the Vampire Slayer (Fran Rubel Kuzui 1992 US). Diverting comic horror film in which an airheaded Californian cheerleader (Kristy Swanson) is recruited by Donald Sutherland as a medieval vampire slayer to save LA from a langed invasion armed only with with her trusty stake and languid athleticism Luke Perry (on day release from Beverly Hills 90210) plays Swanson's boyfriend while Rutger Hauer and Paul Rubens lead the tang-in-cheek nasties (50073536).

10.35 Secrets and Lives. Profile of the rich ginger

11.05 Fame and Fortune (R) (S) (1040642). 12.05 Film The King of Marvin Gardens (Bob elson 1972 US). Jack Nicholson is reteamed with director Ralelson with whom he made the acclaimed Five Easy Pieces. This neglected drama contrasts Nicholson's cerebral radio personality (which, way back when, was not the oxymoron it is today) with his aspirational older brother Bruce Dem (4488686).

2.00 On Wings of Eagles (26777173). 4.20 Film Rag Doil (Lance Comfort 1960 UK). Kitchen-sink style melodrama - bought from MFI in which a young woman escapes from a drudge-like existence to London, where she meets aspiring crooner Jess Conrad (51-179-163) 5.30 100 Per Cent (S) (6684937). To Gam

### **RADIO**

2.20-5.40 Joins BBC News 24

197.6-99 9MHz FM )
6.00 Chris Moyles. 10.00 Mark Goodier 12.30 Mary Anne Hobbs. 3.00 Steve Lamaco. 6.00 Anne Nightingale's New Year Chill Dut 10.00 Carl Cor's Essential Year. 2.00 Gilles Peterson. 4.00 - 6.30 Charlie Jordan. Radio 2

88-90.2MHz FM ) 185-90.2MHz FM ) 8.00 Richard Alfinson. 7:30 Sarah Kennady. 9:30 Alex Lester. 12:00 Sleve Wright: 2:00 Laughter USA Spe-cial 3:00 Ed Stewart. 5:00 John Dunn. 7:00 Britannia! 8:00 Paul Jones: Best 10:00 Paul Jones: Best or emarma: 4.00 Paul Jones: Best of 97 9.00 Bibly Ocean's Calebrity Soul Show 10.00 Radio 2's Hollywood Christmas: 10.30 Bob Harris, 1.00 Steve Madden 3.00 - 4.00 Patrick Lurt.

Radio 3 (90.2-92 4MHz FM.) 6.00 On Air 9.06 Morning Collection 10.15 The New Year's Day Concert. 10.56 Introduction to the Waltz. 11.55 New Year's Day Concert (part 2) 12.30 Ghosts in the Machine. 1.00 Composes of the Week Twenti-eth-Century American Song. 2.00 The BBC Orchestras. 3.56 Ensemble 4.46 Turns of the Gentury: -

(198kHz.) 10.00 Daily Service 10.15 - 10.30 On 5.00 The Changing Orchestra. 6.30 Performance on 3 Radio 5 Live 9.40 Posscript, 'Gerdens', 10.00 Music Restored. Anthony Rooley introduces rarely heard sacred music (693, 906kHz MW ) 6.00 Murrey Walker's Grand Prix World, 6.30 The Breakfast Proto voices and instruments by the 17th-Century Italien composer Grovenni Fe-lice Sances, including the Misse solicia. The performent are Musica Fabula, director Jan Welters. 10,45 The Stielling Show. 1130 Composers of the Missel. Princh. World. 6.30 The Breakfast Programme. 9.00 Nicky Campbell. 11.30 The Cellic Tiger. 12.00 Micday with Mair. 2.00 The Thursday Match. 4.00 Nationwide. 7.00 News Edra. 7.30 The Politician, the Actress and the Bishop. 8.00 Eles from the Bootcamps. 9.00 SportsAmerica. 9.30 Sportshop. 10.00 Sportshes to Calinhonae. 11.00 Mesus 1130 Composers of the Week. British

100 - 6.00 Through the Night Radio 4 (92 4 94 6MHz FM ) 6.00 News Briefing. 6.10 Farming Today. 6.25 Prayer for the Day. (100.0-101.9MHz FM)
7.00 Heir of the Dog. 10.00 Pop Go
the Classics. 12.00 Past Masters. 2.00
Concerto. 3.00 Caroline Bell. 6.00 Big
Previaw. 7.00 Smooth Classics. 8.00 6.30 The Natural History Programme. 7.00 Today. 8.45 Facts and Fancies

140 The Archers

Step 5.00 PM

Evening Concert, 10.00 Jane Merkham, 2.00 Concerto, 3.00 - 6.00 9.00 News. 9.05 Face the Facts rk Griffiths a.so Calling to Swans so.so News, Trumpton Riots Again. Virgin Radio 10.30 Women's Hour. 11.30 From Our Own Correspondent-fie Kershaw Collection. VIFGHI TRACKIO (1215, 1197-1250kHz MW 105 8MHz FM) 8.00 Lynn Parsons, 10.00 Nick Abbot. 2.00 Nicky Home. 6.00 Caimin Jones. 12.00 News: All Our Tornorows 12.25 Four Play. 10.00 Mark Forrest. 2.00 - 6.00 World Service 188 The World at One.

(1984-tz LW)
1.00 Newsdesk. 1.30 Composer of the Month. 2.00 Newsday. 2.30 Focus on Faith. 3.00 World News. 3.05 World Business Report. 3.15 Sports Roundup. 3.30 Assignment. 4.90 Newsdesk. 4.30 The World Today 4.45 Off the Shelf New Year's Day. 5.00 Newsday. 5.30 Cuttook. 5.55 - 6.00 Science View 1.55 Shipping Forsest 2.00 News: Cigareties and Chocolate. 3.00 News: All Our Tomorrows. 4.00 News 4.45 Short Story: Fragile as Milk on a 5.56 Shipping Forecast

### SATELLITE/CABLE

Sky Movies Screen 1
6.00 The Return of Torrary Traker (1984)
(24888), 8.00 Rad (1985) (63934), 10.00
Howard . a New Breed of Hero (1986)
(23791), 12.00 Golshocks and the Tree
Bears (1995) (23975) 1.30 Efgloot and
the Hendersons (1987) (56913), 3.30
Babo (1995) (81935), 5.000 Lide Cotras
(1997) (94933), 7.00 Operation Dumbo
Drop (1998) (87956), 12.55 Before
Sunrise (1996) (75561997) 11.55 Walk
the Line (1970) (507975) 12.55 Before
Sunrise (1995) (210482), 2.40 Mad
Dogs and Englishmen (1995) (535550),
4.20 - 6.00 Baio (1995) (153260).
Sky Movies Screen 2

Sky Movies Screen 2 6.00 The Tiree Musketeers" (1939) (9013604), 715 George White's Scan-deis" (1934) (9155845), 8.40 A Gril Must deis\* (1934) (9155845). 8.40 A Gril Musl Live (1939) (8002623). 10.00 Sister Ken-ny\* (1945) (27333). 12.00 it Came hom Outer Space II (1995) (51759). 2.00 The War (1994) (80284). 4.00 Housequesi (1995) (5883) 6.00 it Came from Outer Space II (1996) (92232994). 7240 US for Ten (438739). 8.00 Murief's Wedding (1994) (78265). 10.00 The Scarter Leave (1995) (13305477). 12.15 Fed Shoe Di-anes (1995) (3191753). 1.35 Last Chance (1995) (848825). 3.10 Ft/ by Nght (1992) (215444). 4.45 - 6.00 The Three Musteriers\* (1959) (3810235).

Sky Movies Gold 4.00 Damsel in Distress" (1937) (5437517), 6.00 Duchess and the Dirtwater Fox (1976) (3971517) 8.00 WarGames (1983) (3976052). 10.00 Escape from Alcatraz (1979) (7234517). 12.00 The Begulled (1971) (9213376). 1.55 Abbott and Costello Meet Bons Kerioff\* (1949) (25099685i. 3.20 Le cr du coeur (1994) (7028024). 4.55 Close.

Bravo **STRAYO 8.00** A Team (33:5420). **9.00** Tour of Duly (395284). **10.00** Red Shoe Danes (758623). **10.45** Film: Hard Boiled (1992) (11912791). **115** Tour of Duly Laboration (2002) (5628956), 215 Film: Manac Cop 2 (1990) (8650856), 4.00 The Marx (1673482), 4.30 Head (5181918) 5.00 -

8.00 A-Team (9453444).

Discovery Channel
4.00 Bush Tucker Man (#200062). 4.30

Flichtline (#505246). 5.00 Best of British (9560420). 8.00 Shark Hunters (5782371). 7.00 Mysterious World (6086449). 7.30 Diseaser (#506975). 8.00 Man Immortal (3558994). 9.00 Top Marques (6826889). 9.30 Wonders of Weather (5761888). 10.00 in the Wake of the Buzzerd (3348517). 11.00 Discover Magazine (6821333). 11.30 Discover

The Buzzard (827333), 1130 Discover Magazine (827333), 1130 Discover Magazine (729067), 12,00 Best of British (4960208), 1,00 Discover (5706227), 1,30 Beyond 2000 (3782395), 2,00 Close. (3182395). 2.00 Close.

Sky 1

8.00 Moming Glory (321536) 8.00 Hotel (46555), 10.00 Tarzan, the Epic Adventure (38623), 12.00 Oprah Winkrey (37170). 1.00 Geraldo (17130) 2.00 Sally Jessy Rachael (72642), 3.00 Jenny Jones (38791) 4.00 Oprah Wintrey (5826), 5.00 Suz Tiek Voyager (5642), 6.00 Best of the Live 6 Show (2197), 6.30 Mamed with Critichen (349), 7.00 The Simpsons (6371), 7.30 Real TV (2333), 8.00 Suddenty Susan (2791). **8.30** The Nattry (1826) **9.00** Semileid [44710], **9.30** Mad about You (49739) **10.00** E R (64062) **11.00** Star Trek Yoyage (95710) 12.00 Late Show with David Letterman (4044) 1.00 in the Hear of the Night (59753) 2.00 - 6.00

Sky Sports 1
700 YWF [3340] 8.00 Sky Sports
Centre (34130) 8.00 Racing News
(4823) 9.30 Aarobics (6325-1 10.00
Soccet Extra (2653642) 13.00 Socitish
Football Hearts v Hiberman (799888)
4.30 Boong (713468), 7.30 Soccet Extra
(9325536), 11.00 Boong (347365) 2.00
Scottish Football (55360) 3.30 Angling
Masters (6766) 4.30 Close
Sky Sports 2 Sky Sports 2

7.00 Sports Centre (7761555) 8.00 Racing News (9690246), 8.30 Fishing Tales (3699517) 8.00 American Cut-Tales (3699517) 9.00 American Out-doors (9613197) 9.30 Entbol Municip (7941556) 10.00 Sport USA (6865172) 11.30 Andersen Consulting Finals Pre-view (3089614) 12.00 Angling Masters (7931159) 1.00 Figure Skaling (7290346) 3.00 Table Tenns (5062420) 4.00 Angling Masters (50815551 5.00 Figure Skating (9614826) 7.00 Ander-sen Consulting Finals Pre-view (644833) 7.30 Darts (9304178) 11.30 Body-Buiking (7204265) 12.00 Angling Masters (7718465) 1.00 Trans World Sport (9905621) 2.00 Andersen Con-sulting Finals (6081005) 2.30 Close

Sky Sports 3 ng (84499826) 5.30 Scottish League Ing (8449826) 5.30 Scottish League Footbal (77103791) 7.00 Anging Mas-ters (10002246) 8.00 Trans World Sport (10911994). 9.00 World of Saling (91225197) 8.30 Powerboal and Jet Ski World (62534401). 10.00 Football Scrap-book (99067888). 11.30 Close

EUrosport
7.30 Kanng (40159) 9.00 Figure Skating (80062) 11.00 Ski Jumping (24517)
12.00 Raily Raid (68975), 1.00 Football
(77623), 2.00 Football (11994) 4.00 Ski
Jumping (5710) 6.00 Car on lee (78/7)
6.30 Football (49997) 7.30 Football
(32642) 8.30 Raily Raid (96401) 9.30
Raily (69604) 10.00 Terms (15710)
11.00 Motor Racing (38710) 12.00 Raily
(35463), 12.30 Close. Eurosport UK Gold 7.00 Nineteenth Hole (2329739) 7.35 Neighbours (5665739) 8.00 Cross rads (6965401) 8.25 EastEnders (3295623) 9.00 The Bill (5331333) 9.30 Howards

9.00 The Bit (53.713.3) 9.50 Howards Way (5772994) 10.00 Bless This House (782555), 10.30 The Sullivers (5327517), 11.00 Boon (9963159) 12.00 Crossroads (52833449) 12.25 Neighbours (52636536) 12.55 EastEnders (7756886) 130 Sylves (7835886) 2.30 No Place Like Home (9710565) 2.50 Last of the Summer Wine (3425130)

Numbers in brackets are VideoPlus+® Codes
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Piescue 911 (5449352), **7.30** Mysteries, Magic and Mirscles (7085420), **8.00** Jer-ry Springer (3970888) **9.00** Films A Small Küling (1981) (3973975), **11.00** The Sex Zone (3221420), **12.00** Close. Live TV

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Files? 5.30 - 6.00 Home Shopping

TV Guide by Peter Conchie

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### Gough's injury blow opens tour door for Silverwood

England's chances of cricketing success in the West Indies suffered a blow yesterday when their fast bowler Darren Gough withdrew through injury, to be replaced by Chris Silverwood. Derek Pringle, Cricket Correspondent, reports.

The hamstring injury that forced Darren Gough to miss the final two Ashes Tests of the summer has returned to force rey's side in 1968. His efferthe fast bowler out of England's vescent personality, a boon on

leave on Saturday. His place will mate Chris Silverwood, currently in Kenya with the England A team.

"I've tried everything possible to get fit, so this setback is extremely frustrating and upsetting," Gough said."But I'm extremely optimistic I will soon regain full fitness."

The loss of Gough will be a significant blow to England's chances of beating the West Indies on their home soil, a feat last achieved by Colin Cowd-

long tours away from home, will chairman of selectors, held out be almost as badly missed as his ability to get the ball to reverse swing, an important factor on bare dry pitches.

According to the England physiotherapist Wayne Morton, Gough's problems from last summer - sore hamstring tendons behind the left knee - had never cleared up and, despite intensive treatment, he was never entirely free of pain when trying to bowl flat out. Although he missed Sharjah attending the birth of his second son, it clearly bought him some extra time, too.

David Graveney, England's

the possibility of Gough linking up with Atherton's squad later on. "This is a blow to both the England team and to Darren himself, as I know he was extremely keen to return to the in-

ternational arena after missing

the latter part of last summer

through injury." Graveney said.

"However, we remain confident we can overcome his loss and sustain the momentum we established in Shariah. Should Darren return to full fitness in time, then the possibility of him joining the squad should not be ruled out."

Morton thought that Gough

til recently. "Following intense sessions at Old Trafford, and more recently at Headingley, I was hopeful that initial positive signs of improvement would allow Darren the leeway to start the tour and test his leg outdoors on grass," he said. "But this proved futile when the problem worsened under the load of increased pace and

"It is an immensely frustrating time for Darren, Yorkshire and England, but despite considerable efforts on his part to meet the deadline, which we have tried to make as late as possible.

would be ready for the tour un- it now seems his body is determined not to mend in time.

"Since the problem arose, Darren has undergone intense treatment, plus a programme of muscle re-education to correct muscle imbalance. He even underwent a knee investigative arthroscopy to rule out an internal structural problem."

Silverwood had mixed emotions when he heard that his immediate 1998 plans had changed so drastically.

"I'm disappointed for Darren and it's never nice to see one of your mates miss out through injury, but I'm delighted I've been called up." he said. "Tm sure it will take a while for this may well have claims towards to really sink in, but I hope I can step in and do a good job."

Silverwood's promotion tollows a reasonable summer. where he took 44 wickets at 29 for his county. Having had a sketchy tour of Zimbabwe and New Zealand last winter, his progress was slow until the end of the season, when he was asked to spearhead the Yorkshire attack. In a crucial game with Kent he was on course for all 10 second-innings wickets, until rain and the broad bat of

Mark Ealham ruined the fun. Having put on a yard of pace since last winter, Silverwood Dougle Brown.

taking the new ball, though much will depend on the early form of team-mates like Ashley is no Gough but, whatever happens, Silverwood must take his chance when it comes. If he can fill Gough's boots as hand somely, as Matthew Fleming did in Sharjah, England should have no cause for regret.

The Lancashire scamer Peter Martin has been named as the stand-by face.

as the stand-by fast bowler for both tours. Silverwood will be replaced in the A team by Warwickshire's all-rounder

### Split game hinders return to the good old days

Life is hard for the gladiators of the oche as darts tries to pull itself together. Greg Wood reports from the World Championship at Purfleet on a sport that feli from favour.

It is less than 15 years since a serious talent for darts was something worth having. Fame, fortune, perhaps even a gong for services to your sport - such were the rewards of a pursuit which, like snooker, could have been designed for the television age. Eric Bristow was one of the most famous sportsmen in Britain, and kids in bedrooms and garages everywhere practised throwing their arrows with a cocked right pinkie, just like Eric.

But at the very moment conquer the world, something happened to darts. Without gladiatorial atmosphere which had captured audiences in their millions suddenly lost its appeal. Almost as one, the nation switched off. Sponsors and TV boy" Anderson, to Phil "The has ever quite worked out why. by many to be the finest player ones people have heard of,

The most popular excuse is ever to lay hands on 22 grams

one which snooker might of tungsten. recognise. "There just aren't If Taylor wins the Profesany characters any more," sional Darts Council World people complain, but they have Championship here at the Cirwhen it seemed ready to clearly never watched Jamie cus Tavern this week, it will be "Bravedart" Harvey leading bis sixth world title, one more strange and unfortunate the crowd in a chorus of "Loch than Bristow (or indeed anyone lite crew worked darts over like winner of the Embassy Champ-Lomond" as he makes his else). It is a shame, then, that, warning, the beery, entrance. In fact, darts is still a week or so later, a second packed with characters, from world champion will be Rod "The Prince Of Style" crowned, but darts, like boxing, Harrington (he wears a tie) and is stricken by a terrible dose of Bob "The Limestone Cow- acronyms.

It all started a few years ago coverage melted away. No one Power" Taylor, who is reckoned when the best players and the

same thing, broke away from the British Darts Organisation (which runs the long-standing Embassy World Championship) to form a new circuit backed by Sky TV. The satel- fact that everyone knows the his opponent had just 40, a only they can, adding music, ionship will not be fit to stand to get. A finish was vital, and disco lights, whacky camera at the same oche as Taylor. Nor angles and even a few smoke is it ideal when darts is trying to machines to beef up the peasouper already being generated status it once enjoyed. by the audience. Yet still the public remained unmoved by the warriors of the oche.

A court case last summer ton, with a quarter-final place

Lane with an offer for Everton's

unsettled captain, Gary Speed.

Sheffield Wednesday will have

latest offer was turned down.

Director of Football, who will

be in charge of buying players,

approached Everton yesterday,

and for his part, the Goodison

manager Howard Kendall was

keen to listen to what Pleat

might have to say about possible

player exchanges. Yesterday,

Kendall turned down Wednes-

day's bid, not long after re-

request to put a diver with a

spear gun in the sea in case of

a shark attack during long-

distance events at next

buffing Newcastle United.

**SWIMMING** 

Pleat, Tottenham's new

**FOOTBALL** 

while all other tournaments run by either body are now open to all comers, the two world championships remain separate. It is a daft situation, regardless of the drag itself back towards the

Straight through: Keith Deller lost 3-2 to Mick Manning at the World Championship at Purfleet's Circus Tavern yesterday, but advanced to the quarter-finals on legs average

And darts still has a great deal to offer. Yesterday's match between Harvey and Harring-

Pleat moves quickly to try to lure Speed

which is not necessarily the seemed to herald a reunion but at stake, was one of the finest a whisker. Three darts later, that either world championship has seen. In the fifth and final away from victory, Harrington walked to the oche knowing that straightforward double-top, still with one dart left, he still needed double 10. Harrington thumped it into the middle of the bed, a triumph of nerve un- a lot of them are still in 1985." der the most extreme pressure.

Even so, Harvey had a dart deciding leg, but missed it by competitive edge deserted him

Harrington did not. The two men collapsed into each others arms, both close to tears after a duel with more drama and tension than the average Wimbledon singles final.

wards of Sampras, or even of Henman. "It's not a living," Harvey said. "There's a handful who can make a living out of it, but

Cliff Lazarenko, for instance, still makes a living from at double top to win the next, exhibitions, even though his

years ago. On this week's evidence. Bristow and John Lowe

Photograph: David Ashdown

seem to be going the same way. Harvey does not have a sponsor for 1998, forcing him to miss several ranking events. Yet still he will practice every day, and Not for them, though, the re- hope that the good times will

start to roll once again. "I was always a bit of a jack of all trades when it came to sport," he says. "I've played football, and golf and a few others, but darts is the hardest of all." Which is true in more ways than one.

Results, Digest, page 24

### TOMORROW: THE INDEPENDENT SPORTS CALENDAR FOR 1998

### THE INDEPENDENT CROSSWORD

piece reversed (4-4) Last of cannon involved in a loud, shattering dis-

charge (6) Analyse compound of sulphur and tin (4) Ladies' undergarments? Lots of them - it's business (5, 5)
12 Miscellaneous collection left by patriarch (Old Tes- 1

tament) (3-3) ingrained attitudes (8) Warship expected to be 17 Pupil removed from com- 3 prehensive classes (6)

20 Quick way to make Brie? 4

or taproom? (6) Jumper with special opening in front (8) DOWN

on stick (6)

charge (4)

Valuable having a summary which includes French as an alternative (8)
Put favourable slant on se- 19 rious offence President's involved in (4) Dessert in regular spheri- 21 cal shape (6)

cause trouble (8)

Honest fellow with dirty Cruise and tour organised for people of fashion (10) 6 What soldiers must do is

> relief in the provinces (6) Scientific establishment originally located at Brompton, above church

apathetic (8) See aunt boil grubby wash-Band of different colour runs through piece of

Catch fitted to a hot water pipe (6) Bats in belfry as nine is struck (6) 24 Deliver timber (4)

recent months.

ob winning all he prizes? Vessel impounded by po-lice for sale? (6) About to introduce poor

month's world championships in Perth. Australia. The organising committee requested special protective measures for swimmers competing in 5km and 25km ocean races after a shark attack and several sightings of large sharks off Perth beaches in

> "It's too chancy," said the апуопе left injured. officer in charge of water police, Acting Senior Sergeant utive director, Alan Melchert, of the year."

David Pleat is likely to make his from Atkinson was £6m plus mark quickly at White Hart Jim Magilton, while Newcastle's was £5m plus Darren Peacock.

Tottenham's attempt to overturn the Department for Eduto think again, though, after their cation and Employment's refusal to give fitness director Fritz Schmid a work permit, was aided yesterday when Fifa, world football's ruling body, lent its support. "He would have a unique claim to the job, in our view," a Fifa spokesman said. "His fitness qualities are exactly what should be hired because many believe this is one of the weak spots in the Premier League."

The DOE, which will hear an appeal by Spurs, said that It is believed the latest offer Fifa had sent a letter of

Water police have refused a Gary Tattersall. "A diver with said he expected police divers

a spear gun's got one chance.

He can either shoot and miss,

then he's unarmed in the

spot and send it into more of

a frenzy or there's the third

option that he hits it in the

aboard boats would be pre-

pared to use firearms if a

shark attacked and divers

would be prepared to rescue

Tattersall said police

right spot and it's dead."

"He can hit it in the wrong

water with a shark.

Competitors to face sharks without a gun

recommendation with the original application - which means little has changed.

Gross has more immediate problems as he deals with the fall-out from recent comments by Les Ferdinand and Darren Anderton about his leadership.

Ferdinand reportedly accused Gross of making him train while injured, while Anderton claimed Gross made him play in the reserves while not fully-fit. "None of these players have complained to me personally and I will seek to find out if their remarks have been misrepresented," Gross said.

– Alan Nixor More football, page 26

would be equipped with "some

form of anti-shark device"

when the ocean events were

held off Hillarys, in northern

Melchert added that a spot-

Perth, on 7 and 11 January.

ter plane as well as fisheries and

police boats were designed to

minimise concerns of attack.

but they're a pretty hardy

breed and they're used to

swimming in waters with a lot

of different types of hazards,

but this is regarded as a pretty

The championship's exec- safe environment at this time

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